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Advertiser·News

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Volume XX Number 39 "Your Hometown Newspaper" October 2, 1997

Mayor Candidates Spar On Berkshire Power Issue

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Nearly three years after a Boston-based developer first proposed building an electric power plant in the industrial park on Moylan Lane, the Berkshire Power project continues to be ground zero in a maelstrom of swirling political winds, not to mention a good deal of hot air.

Since Berkshire Power came to town late in 1994, political careers have been launched, curtailed, dented, and even resurrected as the proposal to build the $180 million electric generating plant began wending its way down the labyrinthine path knows as the permitting process.

By the end of the week, the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) could give its opinion of Berkshire's request for a local zoning override. Next month, the voters will give their opinion of the project in a non-binding ballot question.

Now is the time to hear the opinions of the three frontrunners in next Tuesday's mayoral primary. The two challengers have considerably altered their positions on the power plant, but the incumbent has remained a staunch supporter of the project.

Frank Lawlor, who singlehandedly launched the campaign to oppose Berkshire Power, has withdrawn his opposition to the plant and has withdrawn from the Concerned Citizens and Businesses of Agawam (CCBA).

"From a personal point of view, I grew tired of fighting and resisting and I'm not going to resist the plant anymore. It's in the hands of the courts and the DPU and it's best left there. The decision on whether the plant is built is out of our hands and I could see no reason to waste energy arguing about it any more," Lawlor said.

Lawlor said another reason for distancing himself from the Berkshire Power debate was his determination not to be perceived as a one-issue candidate.

"By focusing so much attention on Berkshire Power, I think we were missing some of the more important issues," Lawlor said.

Lawlor said he withdrew as an intervenor in the DPU case in June so when his run for mayor commenced, his candidacy would be better-rounded rather than being tabbed "the one issue candidate."

"I believe there are so many other areas in this community to be addressed than the Berkshire Power issue," Lawlor told us. "The townspeople are finally getting their opportunity to voice their opinion on the power plant and I am happy about this. The issue has torn our community apart and there will be many aspects of the plant to be looked at in the future if it is built in Agawam and I can only hope this will occur under a spirit of cooperation rather than constant confrontation.

"All the issues raised over the past two years about the payment in lieu of tax agreement (PILOT) negotiated by the mayor will have to be addressed and revisited," Lawlor said. "I don't think the mayor should be the sole negotiator. That's what got us into trouble the first time."

Should the DPU find in Berkshire's favor, a tax treaty is inevitable, Lawlor said. "Then it's just a matter of signing the best deal for the town."

Originally a supporter of the project, Council President Kent P. Servis is turning thumbs down on the PILOT agreement negotiated by Mayor Christopher C. Johnson.

"Based on limited information, it looked like a good deal. After reviewing the contract, I've come to the conclusion this is a bad business deal for the town," Servis said. "We're only getting a third of what we should be getting."

The PILOT agreement calls for a payment to the town of $1 million a year escalating at three percent per year. A portion of the money is to be set aside in a school/community improvement fund: the rest would go to the town's general operating fund.

Critical Of The Permitting Process...

As far as the merits of building the power plant are concerned, Servis said the decision would be made by the DPU. But, Servis criticized the way project proponents have handled the permitting process.

SEE CANDIDATES SPAR - Page 2...

VOTE
VOTE
PRIMARY
ELECTION
Tues., Oct. 7th
POLLS OPEN
ALL DAY

Pumpkins, Pumpkins Are Everywhere...



LAURA CINCOTTA of Cincotta Farms on Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, stands alongside her wagon of pumpkins at her popular farmstand last week. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

CANDIDATES SPAR - from Page 1...

"The process by which this has been ushered through has taken on such a bad aroma that it would make it difficult for anyone who knew the facts to support it," Servis said.

Despite two years of relentless attacks from power power opponents, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson remains convinced the construction of the plant is in the town's best interest.

Johnson said the power plant will bring a substantial amount of revenue to the community, either as real and personal property tax, or through the PILOT agreement (in addition to bringing in substantial water and sewer revenue).

As the largest single taxpayer in town, Berkshire Power will bring in close to the same revenue as the entire industrial park, besides bringing in close to $1 million in water and sewer fees to help stabilize the water rates, Johnson said.

In addition to creating permanent, good quality jobs to operate the plant, the project will create hundreds of construction jobs for local contractors, Johnson said.

Furthermore, under the terms of the PILOT, Agawam can become a wholesaler of electricity allowing the town to buy low-cost power and sell it to town residents.

"To have a facility obligated to sell low-cost power to the town will be a benefit," Johnson said.

Johnson said he respected the right of people to question the impact of the power plant on their property, but he hoped people hadn't been misled into thinking the results of the November referendum will have any effect on whether the plant is built or not.

Berkshire Power project Manager Kenneth Roberts said the PILOT agreement offering the town $1 million per year is still on the table. But, the project is nearing financial closing within the next two months. If the council has not accepted the PILOT offer, Roberts said they will move forward with their plan to seek a manufacturer's tax exemption.

If granted the exemption, the company would pay less than $300,000 a year in real estate taxes to the town, according to an estimate prepared by the power developers.

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano

Commemorating "National Fire Prevention Week"...

The Agawam Fire Department will be observing "National Fire Prevention Week" from October 5 through October 11, 1997.

"Fire Prevention Week" commemorates one of the worst fires in American history — the 1871 Great Chicago Fire. On October 9th of that year, 250 people died and over 17,000 buildings were destroyed in a fire where the property damage was estimated at $169 million.

The Fire Marshal's Association established "Fire Prevention Day" in 1911 to publicize the fire problem. In 1922, President Harding proclaimed "National Fire Prevention Week," and since that time the National Fire Protection Association has been the official sponsor of "Prevention Week" activities throughout the nation.

However, the Agawam Fire Department wants you to remember that fire safety should be practiced every day, and offers the following suggestions:

- Install and maintain smoke detectors on every level of your home.
- Have a home fire escape plan and practice it with your family.
- Keep matches and lighters out of the hands of children.
- Have home heating systems and chimneys inspected by a professional.
- Store flammable liquids in safety cans and outside the house.

If you have any questions or need additional information, contact the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

Our deadline is every Tuesday at noon. We open at 6:30 a.m. Thanks.

ADVERTISER NEWS

Town Council Agenda For Next Meeting On Wed., October 8th

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 9/2/97; Minutes - Special Council Meeting of 9/25/97
5. Declaration from Council President
6. **Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances**
 None.
7. **Report of Council Committees**
 None.
8. **Elections**
 None.
9. **Public Hearings**
 (a)
 1. PH-97-17-(TOR-97-10)-An Ordinance to amend Agawam Zoning Ordinance to provide for a moratorium on wireless communication facilities and to amend Ch. 180, Art. I, General Provisions, Sec. 180-2, Definitions and Word Usage and Sec. 180-8, Supplementary Regulation (Ref. to Ordin. Comm. on 9/2/97)(Conduct Public Hearing).
 2. PH-97-18-(TOR-97-11)-An Ordinance to amend Agawam Zoning Ordinance, Ch. 180, Art. I, General Provisions, Sec. 180-8, Supplementary Regulations (Membrane covered Structures)(Ref. to Ordin. & Zoning Review Committees on 9/2/97) (Conduct Public Hearing).
10. **Old Business**
 (a)
 1. TO-97-12-Application for License for two (2) automatic amusement devices for R.L.Z., Inc. - 11 So. End Bridge Circle (Tabled on 3/3/97 - Left on table 3/17/97, 4/7/97, 5/5/97, 6/2/97, 6/19/97, 7/7/97, 8/4/97, 9/2/97 & 9/15/97).
 2. TO-97-18-Application for License for two (2) automatic amusement devices for Elbow Ray-Mor, Inc. - 386 Walnut St. Ext., Aga., MA (Tabled on 3/3/97 - Left on table 3/17/97, 4/7/97, 4/22/97, 5/5/97, 5/19/97, 6/2/97, 6/16/97, 7/7/97, 8/4/97, 9/2/97 & 9/15/97).
 3. TO-97-57-Application to amend Class II Dealer License, Agawam Motors, 14 Norris St., FH, MA.

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City Council President

KENT P. SERVIS

MAYOR

Kent Has Voted For:

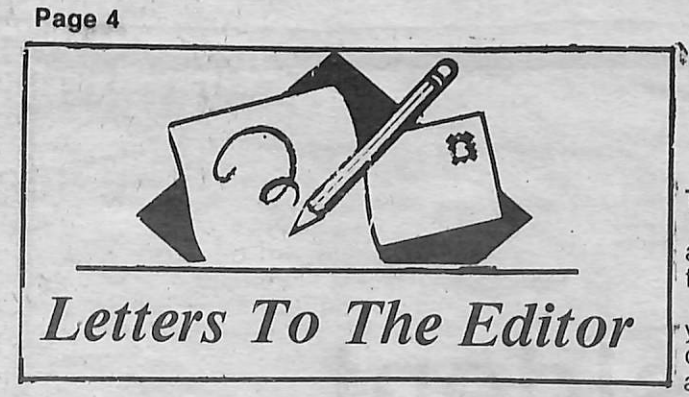
- Expanded Senior Services.
- Efforts To Beautify Agawam.
- Programs To Help The Environment.
- Veterans' Cemetery And Other Veterans' Issues.



As Your Mayor

Kent Will:

* *Work To Stabilize The Tax Rate.*
* *Adequately Fund The Schools.*
* *Provide Lower-Cost Health Care For Town Employees.*
* *Work To Provide A Recreation Center For Our Youth.*
* *Provide Competent, Level-Headed, And Even-Tempered Leadership!*



Japanese Student Seeks Good Home In Agawam

To The Editor:

Welcome the world into your home! A 15 year-old Japanese male exchange student is looking for a caring host family for the rest of the school year.

The student is now attending Agawam High School and is living with a temporary host family in Feeding Hills. The young man is interested in gymnastics and learning new sports.

He wants very much to become part of an American family and be able to share experiences with them. He is softspoken as part of his culture.

He has medical insurance and is supported by his natural family in Japan.

The American family is expected to supply three meals a day and his own bed. The young man needs to be wanted by the family hosting him.

For more information, contact Nancy Marcil, Area Representative, Youth For Understanding, Enfield, CT (860) 749-7963. I will return your calls.

Nancy Marcil
Youth For Understanding

Riverside Park Detractors Called Out By Reader

To The Editor:

Just the other day, I was reading *The Agawam Advertiser,* and came upon a letter from Mr. & Mrs. Robert Twarkins. After I had finished reading it, I was completely outraged.

I very much disliked the way these people said that Riverside adds very little to our town. I'd like to say that Riverside has provided many high school and college kids with summer jobs. If Riverside ever shut down or moved, a lot of people would lose their jobs.

There are a lot of people employed there. I am a senior at Agawam High School, and have worked at Riverside since Memorial Day weekend. Over the summer, I made lots of money and friends. At Riverside, I get treated with respect, and feel well-liked. The managers and supervisors are all really nice people. Some of the nicest people I've ever met, I met at Riverside. My mom and her sister used to work in the Foods Department. They both said they liked their jobs.

I was also angered by the fact that the Twarkins said the races should be shut down. The races have provided my father with enjoyment for many years. When I'm working and I hear the cars, it doesn't bother me.

A while ago, I read in *The Advertiser* about some resident who believed that Riverside should give free passes to all the residents in Agawam. The people who work at Riverside have enough to do with making sure everything is in order, and that the guests are happy. Residents should stop complaining and demanding. Grow up!

Riverside is expanding. A multi-million dollar waterpark is planned. It's not going anywhere. If you don't like it, move somewhere else!

Jennifer Fell
Agawam

Sportsmanship A No Show At Youth Softball Game

To The Editor:

This letter may be late for the softball season I am speaking about, but it is not too late for the future sporting events.

During the championship playoffs for the 10-13 year-old girls in the SHAA league, I witnessed one of the most disgusting, repulsive, and despicable acts of sportsmanship I have ever viewed in any sporting event I have attended.

The gray team that lost to the navy blue team, two games to one, showed why they lost. During all three games, these players stood on their bench with their gloves on their heads verbally assaulting two players. They taunted two players on every pitch, but these two players prevailed and with their fellow players, won the championship.

My real concern is I thought the players were being instructed at fair play, fun, fundamentals of the game, and sportsmanship, not winning at any and all costs by verbal taunting of opposing players.

Above and beyond the players' idiotic and more than childish behavior are the coaches that allowed this onslaught to continue for each game and the umpires and SHAA officials that did nothing to terminate this poor behavior exhibited by the losing team.

It's time that coaches, umpires, and SHAA officials consulted to end behavior performed by players that don't win.

Richard Schoolcraft
Agawam

Soccer Parents Association Hosting Senior Nights

To The Editor:

Tuesday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m., the Agawam High School varsity girls' soccer team will play their last home game of the regular season. This will be "Senior Night" and 10 senior girls will be recognized on this evening.

Thursday, October 16th at 6:30 p.m., the Agawam High School boys' soccer team will play their last home game of the regular season. There are nine senior boys who will be recognized on this evening.

We would like to have the community help us to show our appreciation for our young athletes by having as many family members, friends, teachers, and supporters present at these last two home games. These students have been working hard over the last four years and deserve our recognition.

Please join us on these two important nights for our "Senior" players. Help us make it a memorable one.

Thank You,
The Executive Board
Agawam Soccer Parents Association

Johnson Has Demonstrated A Strong Work Ethic

To The Editor:

On Tuesday, October 7th, there will be a preliminary election in the Town of Agawam which will set the field for the upcoming general election on November 4th.

There are five candidates for mayor and 26 candidates for council. The field of mayoral candidates will be reduced to two, and the field of council candidates will shrink to 22.

I believe that it is very important for every registered voter in Agawam to exercise their right to vote on Tuesday, October 7th. In many ways, the preliminary election is the most important part of the electoral process because it determines who the choices are in the general election.

I have followed this mayoral race with interest and offer some of my observations. The three major candidates are Chris Johnson, Kent Servis, and Frank Lawlor.

As of the time I've written this letter, I have not seen an ad placed by Mr. Lawlor, not seen a "Lawlor For Mayor" sign, nor heard from anyone who has seen Mr. Lawlor on the campaign trail knocking on doors or holding signs on street corners. The only things that I have seen are press releases which are predominantly personal attacks on Mr. Johnson. I would find it hard to support a candidate who is not willing to work to gain my vote.

According to Mr. Servis' press releases, he has chosen to run a positive campaign and I applaud that decision. Unfortunately, Mr. Servis' platform is based largely on his record as a councilor and council president. Most residents that I have spoken with over the past two years are not happy with the efforts of our council.

It seems their meetings are marked more by chaos and bickering than by working together for our community's future. I simply do not believe that it makes sense to bring the leader of the chaos and confusion into the mayor's office and have him run the day-to-day operations of the town.

Mr. Johnson has again focused his election on his record as mayor. I can remember where Agawam was almost a decade ago when we finally put an end to the town manager form of government.

While I have not always agreed with the mayor on the decisions he has made in the past, I do believe that Agawam has made a lot of positive progress under his leadership. I think that Mr. Johnson has demonstrated a strong work ethic and has shown that he cares about our community.

That is why I plan to continue my support of his efforts and encourage everyone to vote on Tuesday, October 7th.

Sincerely,
Stephen Brouillette
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - continued on Page 5...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Friday, October 3rd
"First Friday Series" presents Guy Morin,
A Civil War Soldier - "A Journey To The Past"
At Agawam Public Library
7:30 p.m.
(Admission is free)

Monday, October 6th
Meeting of Agawam Lioness Club
At the Lions Den (on the Big E grounds)
Social hour, 6:30 p.m.; dinner, 7:00 p.m.
Speaker will be Attorney Gina Letellier

Monday, October 6th
Agawam Middle School's PTO meeting
At Middle School cafeteria
7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 9th
First meeting of the AHS Parent Senate
At Agawam High School cafeteria
7:00 p.m.

Monday, October 13th
A Living Rosary meeting to be held by
members of the Catholic Women's Club
At St. John's Church, 833 Main St., Agawam
8:00 p.m.

The Agawam Advertiser•News

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THE AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS (U.S.P.S.-001-170) is published weekly for $24.00 per year by PAG Publications, Inc., 14 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030-0263. Second class postage is paid at F.H., MA 01030 & at associated offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to The Agawam Advertiser News, P.O. Box 263, F.H., MA 01030-0263.

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LETTERS - from Page 4...

Let's Give Much Thought To Whom We Elect In Town

To The Editor:

Combined with a constant pursuit for answers, time is slowly bringing to the surface to what extent the Mayor will go to get his way. With two articles appearing in the *Springfield Union News* within a week, some of what many of us have suspected all along is being exposed.

Such exposure could not have occurred at a more inappropriate time for Mayor Johnson. Election time is still six weeks away, and this gives the voters ample time to take a closer look at what is really dividing Agawam and who really possesses credibility!

Perhaps it *is* time Mayor Johnson is investigated and held accountable for some of the questionable tactics he employs in the administration of his duties as Mayor. When the power he assumes as Mayor is exercised in a manor which invites challenge, he cries foul and remarks it is all politically-motivated. The Mayor is well aware that scrutiny is what one invites when entering the political arena.

We are all guilty of lapses in good judgement, but it is neither proper nor justifiable to point fingers at others in order to escape and shield our irresponsible acts. First, the Mayor blamed the traffic problems with Riverside on the state of Connecticut. The foul-up on bus service for seniors he attributed to the fact the bus drivers happened to become ill.

Last but not least, he faulted a group of residents who dared to challenge the erection of a tower by Berkshire Power, even though these residents possess a legitimate concern for health and the environment.

What the Mayor should be doing is to focus, to address, to understand, and to respond in an equitable manner to some serious concerns confronting the residents of Agawam. As a concerned and well-intentioned individual, I believe I am capable of separating facts from fiction when confronted by either. This I find especially evident when events take place that will affect all residents of Agawam in a positive manner and not just the few who enter Agawam and view it as a new and potentially large profit-making venture!

An acceptable, well-engineered plan is one in which all residents profit in some way, and which can be adopted with a minimum of trespassing on the rights of others. This can only be achieved when the Mayor maintains an open mind and is willing to solicit the cooperation, with sincerity, of those to be most affected by change.

Very shortly, we will have the opportunity to express ourselves at the voting booth. We should all give serious thought and scrutiny to events which continue to occur and which have divided Agawam as never before.

With this in mind, hopefully we will make the right choices and elect officials who will be more understanding and responsive to our legitimate concerns.

Vincent Talevi
Agawam

Agawam High Students Receive College Info

To The Editor:

Recently, a couple of students at Agawam High asked me to obtain information for them regarding a service that allows high school students to take courses at local colleges. I would like to share with you some of the information I discovered regarding this wonderful service available to our students.

The Massachusetts Dual Enrollment Program was established by the Education Reform Act of 1993. This program allows students in their junior or senior year of high school the opportunity to simultaneously earn high school and college credit with the Department of Education (subject to appropriation) reimbursing Massachusetts public institutions of higher education the amount per credit for tuition and fees for participating students.

If funds are not available to cover all qualified applicants for dual enrollment, a high school may, but is not required to, pay the cost of dual enrollment to the institution of higher education if it would like to provide additional opportunities for dual enrollment. Additionally, a qualified applicant for dual enrollment may choose to pay the established dual enrollment costs if funds are not available from state appropriations or school resources.

To be eligible for the program, a student must have at least a GPA of 3.0 and must demonstrate the ability to benefit from college level courses. Students must also be approved by their high school principals, teachers, or guidance counselors. Determining which college courses will aid in the growth or progress of the student, and that meet local criteria for high school graduation, is a local decision. Dual enrollment shall apply to both academic and occupational college-level courses that are not available at the high school.

Between 850 and 1,100 students throughout the state have participated per semester from the fall of 1996 through the fall of 1997. Parents or students who may be interested in this most worthwhile program need to contact the high school staff as application can only be submitted by a member of the school staff, generally the guidance counselor. Application for the spring 1998 semester must be received by the Dept. of Education no sooner than November 10, 1997, and must be postmarked by December 15, 1997, and are processed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Ms. Carol Bray of the Dept. of Education in Boston was very helpful in discussing this program with me. It is my hope that more of our students will have the opportunity to take part in this program.

Abe Kasparian, Jr.
Candidate, Agawam City Council

Quatrone Deserves To Be Reelected

To The Editor:

I am writing to urge you to support Chris Quatrone in his bid for reelection to the Agawam Town Council.

As an active senior citizen and a former Town Council and School Committee member, I can attest to Chris' commitment to our town. Chris works hard and his distinguished himself as a new member on the council.

We need more councilors like Chris and we can't afford to lose him. Please vote for Chris Quatrone on Tuesday, October 7th.

Very Truly Yours,
Jessie D. Fuller
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

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Coupon *Not Valid On Holidays*

Wednesday and Thursday Only
Save $5.00
With This Coupon
On Dinner For 2 Totaling $20.00 Or More
This coupon is not redeemable on specially priced entrees, lunch menu items, or early bird specials. Only one coupon per couple, per visit. Coupon is not redeemable for cash or with any other coupon or special. Applicable taxes paid by bearer.

LETTERS - from Page 5...

Resident Expresses Anger Over Mayor And Four Councilors

To The Editor:

As we approach the Elections of 1997, we need to look back at the selections we made in the 1995 Election. We elected a Mayor and four Council members that have given us overwhelming evidence during the past two years that they are able to serve neither Agawam nor its citizens.

The fact these five are running again and asking for our vote shows they cannot see their own inability to serve or else think the citizens of Agawam are uninformed.

It is no secret that in August of 1994, a couple of out-of-town businessmen representing Berkshire Power came to the Mayor. Ever since, he has turned his back on this town and its people and has represented Berkshire Power.

The real puppeteers are Berkshire Power. They masquerade as businessmen but do not act like gentlemen. They have brainwashed, picketed, and are now holding 18 of our fellow citizens hostage with a lawsuit until they name the members of the CCBA and tell Berkshire Power where the thousands of dollars are coming from to fight them in Boston.

We also elected four Council members named Thompson, Simpson, Bitzas, and Quatrone who act as the puppets of the Mayor. When it comes time to vote on any issue that would benefit the citizens or uphold the laws of Agawam, these four have only four words in their voting vocabulary: "no," "present," and "charter object."

It was evident early on in 1996 that the voters of Agawam had gone into the voting booth and pulled five of the wrong levers. The citizens watched as these five, with total disregard for our wishes, pursued their own interests. The business people watched as those who had been promised only light industry if they invested here were threatened with a power plant.

The mood in Agawam for the past two years has been one of disbelief and anger at what these five have done. Our votes put them in office, and our votes can remove them.

Sincerely,
Mary E. Ghedi
Agawam

Bitzas Says Thanks For Coffee Hour Support

To The Editor:

I would like to thank everyone who came to my coffee hour on Sunday night at the Captain Charles Leonard House.

My family and I appreciate your friendship and your support. We would also like to thank all of our family and friends who helped us prepare and organize the evening. It is a true gift to be blessed with such wonderful family and friends. A pleasant evening was had by all.

I would also like to express my appreciation to those of you who were unable to attend but have been sending in donations. I thank you very much.

Please remember to vote on Primary Day, Tuesday, October 7th. I would appreciate your vote.

Thank You,
George Bitzas
Agawam Town Council Candidate

The Color Purple Is Against Tradition At Agawam High

To The Editor:

Think back when the milkman used to deliver to almost every house, when the ding-dong cart used to ring its bell in almost every neighborhood, and when the craft van was located at various locations in town every weekend.

When there were no computers, no Nintendos and the super highway was only a dirt road, we had less things to do, but always seemed to keep busy. Seems things were so simple then, or maybe I just didn't know any better. But now that I do know better, I wish I hadn't. I am so disgusted with what has happened to our town.

Not only is our town government a joke and no full-day kindergarten in sight, but the big one comes when I noticed our High School colors have changed—to purple! It's bad enough everyone seems to have lost the town spirit, but now we have lost our colors.

I was appalled to find out that our colorguard are wearing purple dresses. Where are the nice orange and brown uniforms with the white boots and orange and white Indian headdresses?

What's happened here? First, the name is changed from the Brownies to the Mohawks. Then the colors change from brown and orange to purple and orange. What's next?

How about changing the name of our town? Just who the heck makes these decisions? Are they made by the parents of the children in the High School that year? Is it the PTO? Is it the School Department?...Just who?

The point I'm trying to make here is not only about names or colors, but TRADITION. I feel if tradition is going to be changed, then everyone in town should have a say—put it out to the people, put it to a vote.

I just don't understand what's going on. Let's save the little spirit that we have left, bring back our colors, and save our tradition.

Laurie Littlefield
Feeding Hills

Agawam Taxpayers Have Done More Than Their Share

To The Editor:

I have read many times in the newspapers that the City of Agawam will have a slight or no tax increase. It was also stated that Agawam will not have to vote on a 2½ percent override in which the town or city has never done.

All classifications of Agawam taxpayers (residential, commercial, industrial, and personal) paid $13,762,000 in 1988. Ten years later in FY 1998, this same group paid $22,900,000 in tax levies. It is very evident that the Agawam taxpayers should get the majority of the credit for making a sound tax base.

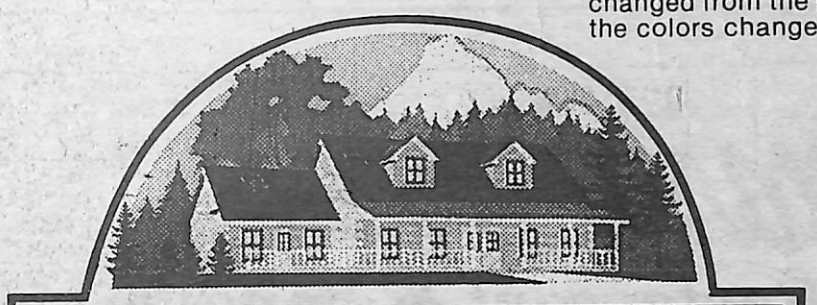
Another major factor in determining our tax bills is the money received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Cherry Sheet Aid Analysis. In FY 1997, Agawam received $1,073,000 MORE than they did in FY 1996. In FY 1998, Agawam will receive $13,249,000, which includes $1,879,000 MORE than it did in FY 1997. In the last two years alone, the City of Agawam has received $2,952,000 MORE in state aid.

Thank you, Agawam taxpayers, for having done more than your share, along with our state, in helping formulate Agawam's tax structure.

I would also like to congratulate Senator Linda Melconian and State Representative Daniel Keenan for the added state revenues Agawam has received.

Edward A. Caba, Vice-President
Agawam City Council

SEE LETTERS - Page 7...

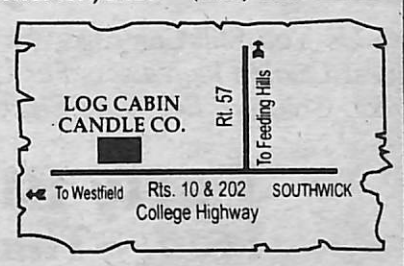


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TOWN OF AGAWAM

TOWN WARRANT FOR THE TOWN PRELIMINARY ELECTION

Hampden ss:

to either of the constables of the Town of Agawam.

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and in compliance with the provisions set forth in the Agawam Home Rule Charter as adopted November 16, 1971, the inhabitants of the Town of Agawam, Massachusetts qualified to vote in elections, are herewith notified to meet in their respective polling places as follows:

Precinct 1: Robinson School, 65 Begley Street
Precinct 2: Clifford M. Granger School, South Westfield Street
Precinct 3: Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street
Precinct 4: Agawam Middle School, 100 Main Street
Precinct 5: Benjamin J. Phelps School, School Street
Precinct 6: James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street
Precinct 7: Agawam Junior High School, Springfield Street

on Tuesday, the seventh day of October 1997, at eight o'clock a.m. then and there to bring in their ballots for the election of officials to the following offices:

* Mayor
* Councillor

The polls will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

BY ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL
A TRUE COPY

ATTEST

Richard M. Theroux, Town Clerk

LETTERS - from Page 6...

Kasparian Will Reflect The Best Interest Of Agawam

To The Editor:

I was very disappointed to read recently that Mr. Kasparian decided to run for City Councilor rather than Mayor of Agawam.

Since Mr. Kasparian was elected County Commission of Hampden County, our county budget has been in the black for the first time in years. He has also shown he is not one to knuckle under to political pressure. He has been a spokesperson for the people of Hampden County and Agawam.

He has brought attention to the parcel of land in Agawam owned by the County and the fact that it would be turned over to the state if we do nothing to prevent the state takeover. Mayor Johnson did not act on the property takeover until Mr. Kasparian forced the issue.

Another issue Mr. Kasparian dug up is the fact that we will have to pay the state an additional $25 million assessment (over the next 30 years) against the Agawam retirement system based on the new state takeover law.

Though I agree we need a City Council that is not constantly bickering, Council members should not be our Mayor's puppets. When one Council member proposes an issue, I think some other Council members run to the Mayor to get his views before voting. As I said, "Mr. Kasparian is his own person."

Our current Mayor has outgrown his original missing of ousting the old-line politicans and **he has become one of them.** He has refused to allow voters to decide issues. He has illegally represented himself as a lawyer when his license to practice law in Massachusetts is inactive.

He forces his views on certain issues and has his City Councilors deadlock other important issues. For example, voters should have had their say on the Berkshire Power issue two years ago, but it was stymied until after the election. This year, the Mayor refused to bring the School Committee issue to the voters.

The latest abuse of power was just last week when Mayor Johnson threw the entire Board of Appeals out of City Hall, denied them direct access to their own files, and instructed other town officials not to talk to members of the Board of Appeals because Mr. Hebert, chairperson of the Board of Appeals, refused to sign a document he believed was not true.

Did our "old-time politicians" act as childish as Mayor Johnson? I think it's time we elect a new Mayor to the City of Agawam.

I'll vote for Abe Kasparian, Jr. for City Council because I believe he will make decisions that are in the best interest of Agawam. I encourage others to do the same.

Jack Rioni
Feeding Hills

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Interim HEALTHCARE.

Where Are The 1996 Boys' Pitching League Trophies?

To The Editor:

This letter is addressed to the SHAA. I'm looking for an answer to the following question:

Has anyone seen the trophies that the 1996 Boys' Pitching League were to receive in the summer of 1996???

It has been more than a year since these children were to receive them. I have been approached by parents and children as to where are the trophies. But, to no avail, no one from the Association has been able to provide an answer.

I know these trophies were made not once but twice, and still no one has contacted anyone to get them. How sad for these children who played their hearts out and earned a trophy, and were told they would receive them at a closing ceremony at the end of the season. Not only did these boys show up, but no explanation was given to them as to where those trophies were. There they stood in front of their peers, only to be disappointed.

I know there was a problem last year with coaches and parents but this should not reflect on the children who played. They deserve those trophies, regardless of that situation. They should not be punished for actions that happened between adults.

I would really appreciate a response to this question, since Mr. Rheault could not provide one to us at the beginning of the 1997 season.

Sincerely,
Lynn Robinson
Feeding Hills

Councilor Bitzas's Work Ethic And Record Deserves Support

To The Editor:

Over the past five years, we have had the opportunity of working directly with George Bitzas on a number of beautification programs and other projects. We have been impressed by his boundless enthusiasm and his willingness to contribute large portions of his personal time, away from his family, to work on issues important to us all.

George was the first to oppose casino gambling and has strongly supported conservation, educational, veterans, and senior issues. While we have not agreed with him on every issue, we are convinced of his honesty and integrity and his sincere desire to implement the wishes of the quiet majority while still listening to the more vocal minority.

The character of the man and his sense of civic duty can be seen in those instances where he unhesitantly picks up a broom or a shovel to clean up a public-nuisance situation, or last winter when he and his son shoveled out an 80 year-old handicapped resident who appealed to the Town Hall for help.

While some are concerned over his accent, he deservedly was just honored by the Massachusetts American Legion as the "Outstanding Foreign Born Citizen."

His experience, track record, and willingness to work hard to serve the best interests of the majority of our community have earned for him our support for another term.

John and Sasha Zebryk
Agawam

SEE LETTERS - Page 8...

PRINTED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY *The Advertiser News*

Clip & Save *Clip & Save*

Town of Agawam — Official Ballot

Primary Day — Tuesday, October 7, 1997

TO VOTE FOR A PERSON MARK A CROSS | X | IN THE SQUARE

MAYOR
For a term to expire on the first secular day in January of 2000
Vote for ONE

CHARLES R. AVEZZI, 204 South Street	
FRANK J. LAWLOR 19 Losito Lane	
CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON 88 Morningside Circle Candidate for Re-election	
VALENTINE R. MORENO 15 Florida Drive	
KENT P. SERVIS 48 Kathy Terrace City Council President, Democrat	

CITY COUNCIL
For a term to expire on the first secular day in January of 2000
Vote for ELEVEN

DENNIS J. PERRY 466 North West Street Candidate for Re-election	
ROBERT M. YOUNG 216 South Westfield Street	
JOHN J. NEGRUCCI 53 Hayes Avenue	
ABRAHAM KASPARIAN, JR. 161 School Street Hampden County Comm. Dem. - Financial Development Authority	
STANLEY J. CHMIELEWSKI 88 Plantation Drive	
DONALD M. RHEAULT 536 Mill Street	
EDWARD A. CABA 198 Walnut Street Veteran, Candidate for Re-election	
DAVID SKOLNICK 331 Rowley Street Candidate for Re-election	
JOSEPH F. LANGONE 180 Suffield Street Candidate for Re-election	
JOHN M. STACY, JR. 83 Valley Brook Road	
F. WILLIAM EULIANO, JR. 38 High Meadow	
GINA MARIE LETELLIER 150 Maple Street Chair. - Agawam Democratic Committee	
MICHAEL J. DELNEGRO 28 Losito Lane	
LOUIS J. RUSSO 76 Highland Street Veteran, Democrat, Various Town Boards, Offices & Committees	
PETER LONGO 236 Adams Street	
JILL P. SIMPSON 24 Pleasant Valley Road Candidate for Re-election	
GARY E. SUFFRITI 3 Cooper Street Candidate for Re-election	
LOREN MONTAGNA 1520 Main Street - Apt. No. 1	
NANCY E. THOMPSON 19A Mansion Woods Drive Candidate for Re-election, Former Council President	
ROBERT A. MAGOVERN 144 Birch Hill Road	
KARL H. STIEG 24 Edgewood Lane Veteran	
GEORGE BITZAS 33 Fernwood Drive Candidate for Re-election	
RONALD BROWN 224 Walnut Street	
GARY F. GEIGER 33 Zachary Lane	
CHRISTIAN M. QUATRONE 75 Pleasant Valley Drive Candidate for Re-election	

LETTERS - from Page 7...

Thompson Has Provided The Leadership That Is Needed

To The Editor:

As most of us are aware, the Primary Election in Agawam will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 1997. We hope that all voters will get out to the polls and vote in this very important election.

We believe there is one outstanding candidate for City Council — NANCY E. THOMPSON.

Councilor Thompson has distinguished herself as a competent community leader who acts with integrity, dignity, and professionalism. Her record as an Agawam City Councilor reflects her hard work and commitment to Agawam and all of its citizens.

Agwam has been our home for over 40 years. Councilor Nancy Thompson has provided the leadership that is necessary and needed for our town.

Please join us in reelecting Nancy Thompson to the Agawam City Council. Thank you.

Matt and Janice Bonk
Feeding Hills

Criticism Of Mayor By Senior Citizen Unwarranted

To The Editor:

I read with great displeasure the letter to the editor last week which criticized Mayor Johnson for actions of the Agawam Housing Authority.

I think the residents of Agawam should know that the Agawam Housing Authority is a quasi-state agency which is under the guidance and direction of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development. The Mayor and other town officials have virtually no control over Housing Authority actions.

I also took exception to the notion that Mayor Johnson does not support our senior citizens. Mayor Johnson has been a strong supporter of seniors citizens. He has overseen many improvements to the Senior Center like kitchen expansion, the installation of a new heating system, and the current interior renovation program.

He created the Senior Rebate Program which allows seniors to do community work in exchange for a break on their tax bill. He has also supported inter-generational programs such as the Mayor's Trophy billiards tournament, school tutoring, and the upcoming WWII Remembrance Week.

Mayor Johnson regularly visits the Senior Center and listens to our concerns, and he has done a great job keeping property taxes down which helps all retired people who live on a fixed income.

Very Truly Yours,
Jessie D. Fuller
Agawam

Mayor Johnson Supports Quatrone For Reelection

To The Editor:
To The Residents Of Agawam:

I am pleased to ask you to join with me in supporting Chris Quatrone for reelection to the Town Council.

Chris is a hard-working councilor who cares very deeply about our community. Even despite working in difficult surroundings, Chris has always acted with integrity and professionalism in his efforts to make Agawam a better place to live and raise a family.

I urge you to reelect Chris Quatrone for Council on Tuesday, October 7th. I believe Chris has truly been the voice of reason and responsibility on the Council, and he has made a positive difference for Agawam's future.

Very truly yours,
Christopher C. Johnson
Mayor

T.I.P. Reminds Voters About A Few Incidents In 1997

To The Editor:
To The Townspeople:

With the upcoming primary on Tuesday, October 7th, T.I.P. (Truth in Politics) would like to remind the voters of a few incidents that occurred this past year.

The first incident happened on January 7, 1997 and it involved the video poker machines. The Police Chief and the Mayor called a special meeting to inform the Council and residents of an important safety issue.

Council President Servis and Councilors Caba, Suffriti, Perry, and Ennis voted not to allow the Police Chief and the Mayor to speak or give their presentation.

Why did these five Councilors slam the door on our two top law enforcement officials?

Now Council President Servis is a candidate for Mayor, running on a platform of open communications and cooperation amongst departments. However, Councilor Servis' prior actions do not reflect his newfound campaign philosophy.

Kent Servis has also changed his position on other key issues since he has announced his candidacy for Mayor. As a Council candidate two years ago, Servis supported the Berkshire Power project, and now as a Mayoral candidate he opposes it.

As Council President, he voted against expanded financial disclosure for municipal candidates. Weeks later, as a Mayoral candidate, he voted for it.

Please exercise your right to vote. The town primary is Tuesday, October 7th. The polls are open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Sincerely,
T.I.P. (Truth in Politics)
Linda Lewis, Secretary

Thank-You, Mayor Johnson For All That You've Done

To The Editor:

I wish to say after eight years, **"THANK YOU"** to Mayor Christopher C. Johnson for the following.

Since you have been mayor, the town has not exceeded the 2½ proposition override and yet we, the citizens, have:

1. regularly scheduled trash and bulk pick-ups for non-metallic, metallic, and yard waste;
2. many newly paved roads and streets that were in terrible condition.
3. a new fire house;
4. a new pre-school building at Perry Lane at very reasonable cost to parents;
5. new additions to four elementary schools and the high school;
6. acquired property for town use as a LONG range, and I stress, **LONG Range plan** when and if the town needs to build a new school, a new town facility, or additional recreational facilities;
7. increased development in our industrial parks (the landscaping shows we care about how our industrial parks look);
8. computers in many classrooms, in the Town Hall, in our police department, and cruisers;
9. new police cruisers, the bike patrol, DARE in our schools, and two new firetrucks;
10. a new curriculum director to resolve the concerns of the parents regarding SAT scores;
11. the best snow removal of all the surrounding towns;
12. a better computerized tax system;
13. reduced odor from Bondi's Island;
14. foreign languages being taught in our middle school;
15. citations recognizing those individuals and organizations who have worked with you to better the community;

and many more I may have failed to mentioned.

Has Mayor Johnson addressed our problems? Of course he has. It's all around you. Every one of the above issues was fought by coalition groups in Agawam formed to discredit the Mayor. That's why I remember them so well. Because the community believed in him, then, we have moved forward to the 21st century.

I look forward to another two exciting years of the Johnson administration because I wish to see a new DPW garage, the completion of the River Walk, and School Street property become the property of the Town of Agawam.

I know coalition groups are now forming to stop these projects. DON'T LET IT HAPPEN! Chris has already proven to me he can accomplish these tasks without exceeding the town budget and that is why I'm pulling his level on **October 7th.**

Sincerely,
Cindy L. Sanford
Agawam

Bitzas Deserves Vote On Primary Day

To The Editor:

Next Tuesday, October 7th, is Primary Day and I hope everyone will go out and vote. I strongly believe Councilor Bitzas is one councilor that has earned our votes. He has accomplished more than any other councilor and his record of achievement speaks for itself.

George Bitzas has proven to be a very honest man who cares and works hard for Agawam. He has tried to dignify the council meetings, many times without support from the other councilors. He has helped in the past and continues to work to help the elderly, the veterans, the school system, the athletic programs, the drug and gang programs, town services, and businesses. He has worked to improve the roads and sidewalks without increasing our taxes.

I agree with Michael Ashe, the Hampden County Sheriff, when he said, "George Bitzas, Agawam City Councilor, is a caring, hardworking, dedicated person who has served as a public servant with outstanding integrity, honor, and zeal."

I think Councilor Bitzas has earned and deserves my vote.

Sincerely,
Pietros Cockoros
Agawam

Johnson Deserves Your Vote On Primary Day!

To The Editor:

Please allow me the opportunity to urge Agawam residents to vote in the Primary Election. It is important that every registered voter exercise their right to vote in this election, since the government of this town needs stronger leadership.

Mayor Johnson deserves our votes. He has proven himself a strong leader, dedicated to the preservation of the future of Agawam. He has proven himself a strong, fiscally responsible administrator, who has strengthened the fiscal position of Agawam while making capital improvements and purchasing open land for **all** residents to enjoy.

Mayor Johnson also has had the courage to make difficult decisions that have not always been politically popular, but have always been in the best interests of the entire town.

Since the council has been difficult to work with, Agawam needs a strong leader. Leadership, courage, fiscal management, sound public policy—these are the reasons Mayor Johnson deserves your vote on Primary Day!

Sincerely,
Vivian Dziardziel
Feeding Hills

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Campaign '97

Professionalism Key To Being A Councilor Says Robert Young

In a campaign statement released this week, Robert M. Young, candidate for Agawam Town Council, said, "I feel that one of the most basic roles of a Town Councilor is to bring a professional, well-trained, and well-mannered style to the position.

"In addition, I believe that we elect 11 councilors because *11 heads are better than one or two,* to work together towards the common goals and good of the town.

"In my career as a professional project manner for some of the largest corporations in the world, I am asked to take large groups of diverse individuals that range in size from five to 25 and form ONE team with common goals, to successfully complete a project," said Young.

"As your Town Councilor, I promise to use my leadership, team building, and management skills to help build a better council; a council where members feel free to bring their own unique ideas and skills and blend them into a cohesive, professional town government.

"In our local government, there is a delicate balance that needs to be maintained between all of our great desires to increase our tax base as to increase the quality of our schools, build upon our already fine town services, and reduce individual taxes while maintaining Agawam's *small town charm* and quality of life.

"I strongly believe that only a well organized, highly professional, well educated, and dedicated council, working together as one team, can successfully deliver this very critical goal that impacts all of our futures. As the father of 10 month-old twins, I am keenly interested in how each and every decision is reached and its impact upon our children's future.

"I respectfully ask the people of Agawam and Feeding Hills to support my candidacy so that I can bring my professional work ethic for positive change to the Agawam Town Council," concluded Young.



TOWN COUNCIL CANDIDATE ROBERT YOUNG and his family, wife Karla and children Brooks & Brianna.

Paid Political Ad

In the midst of the bickering and confusion on the Agawam Town Council, Chris Quatrone has been a voice of reason and responsibility for the people of Agawam.

WHEN the majority of the Council voted NO and not allow the Police Chief and the Mayor to speak on an important public safety issue. **Chris spoke up and voted YES.**

WHEN five councilors called a special meeting on a Friday night and voted YES to oust the Council President while the Mayor was out of town. **Chris spoke up and voted NO.**

WHEN the majority of the Council voted NO and rejected the town budget which threatened essential town services. **Chris spoke up and voted YES.**

VOTED for two consecutive town budgets which substantially increased funding for our public schools and added more police officers and firefighters, with **NO increase in property taxes for our residents.**



Chris Quatrone for Council

Please Vote on Tuesday, October 7th

Paid for by the Citizens for Christian M. Quatrone

Campaign '97 - continued...

Johnson Touts Strong Record On Supporting Public Schools

In a campaign statement issued this week, Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said, "I strongly believe that the most important function of our local government is the education of our children. As Chairperson of the Agawam School Committee, I have made the education of our children my top priority.

"I am a product of the Agawam Public Schools and a graduate of Agawam High School. When I went on to college and law school, I realized the quality of the education that I received in Agawam. As I faced new academic challenges, I knew that I had a strong educational base upon which to build," said Johnson.

"During my tenure, I have worked hard to improve the Agawam Public Schools and the following are some of my accomplishments:

- BUILDING additions to and renovating Granger Elementary School, Phelps Elementary School, Clark Elementary School, and Robinson Park Elementary School - these additions will provide much needed classroom space and increase the student capacity in our elementary schools by over 300 students and add new library/media centers - all four projects have received state school building assistance approval which entitles the Town of Agawam to 71 percent state reimbursement;

- BUILDING additions to and renovating the Agawam High School - the additions will add 18 classrooms, new office, and specialized space, enlarge the kitchen and cafeteria, and create a new main entrance to the building - the student capacity will increase by over 400 students and the project has received state school building assistance approval which entitles the Town of Agawam to 71 percent state reimbursement;

- BUILT the new Early Childhood Center at Perry Lane Park;

- REVISION of the entire K-12 curriculum to better define and coordinate our curricula and bring it in line with new state curriculum frameworks;

- PROPOSED the creation of the position of Director of Curriculum and Instruction to oversee complete re-write of Agawam Public Schools curricula;

- INCREASED the length of the school year by over two days;

- INCREASED FUNDING for our schools - in 1993 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts passed the Education Reform Act which sets each community's net school spending requirement -the net school spending requirement is based on increasing all public school spending to at least foundation level - during my tenure Agawam has spent millions of dollars above the net school spending requirement;

- INTRODUCED FUNDING for our school councils, new educational and computer technology, curriculum materials and textbooks, and new school furniture;

- IMPROVING SAT SCORES - 10 years ago (1988) the average SAT scores at the High School were 398 Verbal and 435 Math; when I became Chairperson of the Agawam School Committee (1992) the average SAT scores at the High School were 407 Verbal and 452 Math; in 1997, the average SAT scores at the High School were 490 Verbal and 491 Math - SAT scores have improved every year except one since I became Chairperson of the School Committee and I remain committed to continued improvement through the revision of our curricula and the introduction of preparation courses at the High School;

- IMPROVING TEST SCORES AT THE HIGH SCHOOL - in 1997 the 10th grade took the Iowa Test of Educational Development which measures student skills in nine different broad areas like vocabulary, social studies, and science and 38 more specialized skills such as solving problems, interpreting information and expression - AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL scored well above the national average in 37 of 38 areas of specialized skills and matched the national average in the 38th; in 1996, the 10th grade took the Massachusetts Educational Assessment Program test and scored consistently above the state average;

- INTRODUCED SAT Preparation course for High School students which has produced results (in the first year, the average student taking the course increased their SAT score by 12 percent, or 93 points);

- SPONSORED local acceptance of the state legislation creating the Instructional Materials Trust Fund and sponsored appropriations of over $120,000 to the fun;

- RECIPIENT of the Friend of Education Award from the Agawam Education Association; and

- ATTRACTED the Federal HeadStart Pre-School Educational and Family Literacy Program which now operates out of the former Center Library.

As our schools continue with the implementation of the state Education Reform Law, there will continue to be many changes such as heterogeneous grouping, time in learning, and new performance standards. I strongly believe that our schools are prepared for those changes.

Our children will be competing in a global economy, and we must make every effort to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to insure their future success. I pledge to continue my support of education in Agawam, and to continue my efforts to provide the best possible education to all of Agawam's children," concluded Johnson.

Councilor Thompson Seeks Competent & Cooperative Govt.

Agawam City Councilor Nancy E. Thompson, a candidate for reelection, has issued the following statement:

"In 1989, Agawam residents voted to change our form of government from a manager-council to a mayor-council government. Under the mayor-council form of government, an elected mayor serves as the chief executive officer and sets the agenda for government.

"The city council is the legislative body whose responsibility it is to enact ordinances (laws) and to approve budgets. Laws outline each governmental role, and this serves as the system of checks and balances.

"Our work as councilors and mayor should be based on the substance of an issue. Cooperation, respect, and trust is essential in order to achieve the common good.

"In Agawam, cooperative efforts between the Mayor and City Council have resulted in the following: Agawam has not had to enact Proposition 2½; maintenance of minimal tax increases while providing a high level of municipal services; the building of a new fire headquarters; the acquisition of the Agawam Country Club; additions and renovations to our schools; a commitment to a regional walkway and bike path; purchase of land for open space; and an increase in the number of occupants in Agawam's Industrial Park."

Thompson continued, "Personal attacks, bickering, and being divisive have resulted in negativism and have not achieved positive outcomes for Agawam. Some examples of this are the illegal gaming devices issues earlier this year and the action surrounding the approval of the FY 1998 budget. These actions do not bode well for Agawam.

"As an Agawam City Councilor, I have endeavored to act in a professional and issues-oriented manner. At times, this has proven to be a difficult challenge. I remain nonetheless committed to providing Agawam with a competent and cooperative government that works well for all of its citizens," concluded Thompson.

LEGAL NOTICE **LEGAL NOTICE**

TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on Thursday, October 9, 1997 at 7:00 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Spinelli for property located at 32 Calico Lane.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: October 2, 1997

Check our classified

Candidate Montagna Believes He Can Make A Difference

"Agawam ... throw the bums out! You deserve better!" is how Loren Montagna, a candidate for the Agawam City Council, began a campaign statement that he released this week.

"You deserve a better educational school system. You deserve a better Parks & Recreational Department.

"But most of all," he continued, "you need a City Councilor who wants to be a City Councilor, not your Mayor.

"I am not running to settle a score. I am running for City Council because I believe I can make a difference," concluded Montagna.

Robert M. Young Signs Are Still Available

"Elect Robert M. Young" signs are still available. If you'd like to help with a lawn sign, please call Karla at 786-8995.

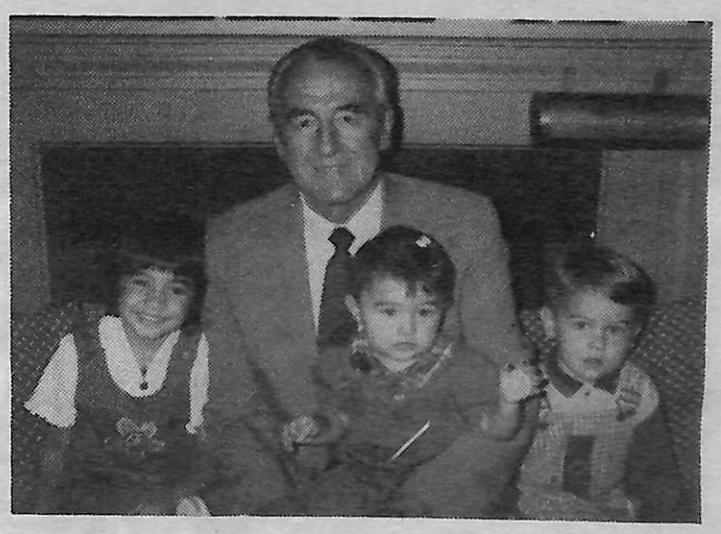
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Agawam throw the bums out. You deserve better!
Oct 7th City Council Primary
Pull lever 25A Elect Pull lever 25A
Loren Montagna
"I will spend my time trying to make our community a better place to live."
Invest one of your 11 votes on Loren Montagna.
● EDUCATION
● OPEN SPACE ● PARKS & RECREATION

Paid Political Ad Paid Political Ad

MAKE THE CHANGE TO JOHN NEGRUCCI



VOTE FOR STABILITY AND RESPECT ON OCTOBER 7TH

Elect **NEGRUCCI** For **COUNCIL**

* Former Union Pension Fund Administrator
* Former President Of Agawam Lions Club
* Three Children Graduated From Agawam School System

Paid for by the Negrucci Committee
Anthony C. Bonavita, Chairman

Campaign '97 - continued...

Mayoral Candidate Servis Outlines His Campaign Issues

City Council President Kent P. Servis, candidate for Mayor, has released the following campaign statement:

"There are many issues that we need to look at here in Agawam.

"Our schools need adequate teaching staff to lower class size.

"We need to adequately fund the instructional accounts. Having children without textbooks is unthinkable. Teachers should not have to dig into their own pockets for supplies or have to ask parents to donate basic things like paper and pencils.

"The government exists for the good of the people and should be convenient for the public to access. I propose a plan that would allow citizens to access the services of Town Hall several evenings a month. Citizens should not have to take time off from work to deal with issues at Town Hall.

"Expanded services for our senior citizens should not have to wait until after the turn of the century. I fully support the efforts to increase the level of services to our senior population. I have testified before State Legislators to increase the funding for expanded home care programs and, as Mayor, will put the full weight of the office behind programs to expand our senior services."

Servis continued, "Town employees should not have to spend over $80 per week for health insurance under a family plan. Other communities provide health coverage for less than half that amount. As your Mayor, I will make affordable health care a top priority.

"The Town's various boards and commissions should always be autonomous. The Mayor should never try to exploit any board for political reasons. Our Zoning Board of Appeals is a state-mandated entity. It is appointed by the Council, and the Mayor should keep his hands off of such important boards and commissions.

"As your Mayor, I will never interfere with a lawfully appointed board, or exact retribution because of a personal disagreement with a member.

"On October 7th, make your voice count. Please cast your vote for Kent Servis for the office of Mayor. He has been YOUR VOICE on the City Council. Make him YOUR CHOICE for Mayor on Election Day," concluded Servis.

Bitzas Again Issues Support For Strong Police Department

"When I was first a candidate for the City Council, I made a campaign promise to help make our police department stronger and more modernized," said George Bitzas in a press release this week.

"I spent time visiting with the police officers and the police chief. We reviewed other police departments such as Longmeadow and Southwick, to see first-hand how they were operated and discovered ways to improve our own department. Today, we have a police department with top-notch equipment enabling the officers to perform their jobs more effectively.

"The officers now spend more time than ever patroling our streets to protect us. We are living in changing times, very different times than when most of us were growing up. I feel we must continue to support our police department so that they remain a strong source of protection for our community.

"I also called for better protection in our schools and supported the presence of a police officer at the High School. He works as a protector, advisor, and a friend to our children. I feel this position has proven to be an asset to our community.

"With your support on Election Day, I will be able to continue to support our police department and its programs," concluded Bitzas.

"For us, raising kids right means raising their consciousness."

Religious Education
grades K-12
Sundays
10:30-11:45.
Registration
starts Sept. 7.

Unitarian Universalist Society
of Greater Springfield
245 Porter Lake Dr. • Spfld. • 736-2324
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m.

Council Candidate Euliano Urges Residents To Vote; Make Changes

With the Primary Election only days away, Bill Euliano, candidate for City Council, appealed to the voters to come out on Tuesday, October 7th, and make a difference.

"It's so very important that you get to the polls and send a clear message to these incumbents who don't yet understand it's your interests they are there to represent," said Euliano

"The town charter delegates the responsibility of a councilor; you, the voters, empower them to do the job by electing them; yet nobody holds them accountable for their actions.

"Some incumbents choose to list their achievements in their press releases. That tells us a couple of very significant things. First, we've all been dialed in to the wrong access channel and second, the council as a whole accomplished very little. They are trying to tell you and me it wasn't their fault. Whose fault was it?

"Let's cut to the chase here. It's time to make some changes. We need new energy and leadership. We need to bring this town and its legislative body back to you, the people.

"If you give me one good day at the poles, I'll give you two years of sensible, qualified leadership. That's my promise to you," said Euliano.

"With over 12 years of public service experience as your Chairman of the Board of Health, you won't have to wait for me to get through the training program, either. I'm ready to go to work right now.

"BILL EULIANO - CITY COUNCIL - IT'S TIME FOR POSITIVE CHANGE."

★★★ PLEASE VOTE ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 7TH ★★★

Paid Political Ad

Paid Political Ad

Lets Keep Agawam Moving in the Right Direction

REDUCED
Property Taxes in the last 2 fiscal years

BUILDING
Additions and Renovations to all 4 Elementary Schools and the High School

INCREASED
the number of police patrol officers by over 10% in the last 3 years

RE-PAVED
25% of Agawam's streets in the last 5 years

BUILT
the new Agawam Fire Headquarters on Main Street

IMPROVED
Agawam's Bond Rating from BBB to A+

PRESERVED
400 Acres of Open Space Tuckahoe Turf Farm & Agawam Municipal Golf Course

BROUGHT
12 new businesses to the Agawam Regional Industrial Park



Re-Elect
Chris Johnson
Mayor

Please Vote On Tuesday, October 7th

Paid for by the Committee To Re-Elect Christopher C. Johnson, Mayor

Campaign '97 - continued...

Negrucci Says Council Needs Positive Priority

John J. Negrucci, candidate for Agawam City Council, today stated that the Council needs to set positive priorities, instead of bickering.

Negrucci stated, "In my professional life as a former Union Pension Fund Administrator and in my civic life as a former President of the Agawam Lions Club, I have seen the need for positive priorities and goals.

"The Agawam City Council must stop the bickering and set a positive agenda to help make the change of its image," said Negrucci.

"To achieve its goals, the members must act professionally and courteously at all times, making decisions on the merits of a proposal, not on the personalities involved."

Mr. Negrucci has been bringing his campaign to the citizens of Agawam in various ways. He set out some of the priorities that voters have expressed to him.

He stated, "I have asked for input and I have received it loud and clear. Time and time again, the voters have clearly expressed to me the following three priorities (not necessarily in this order):

1. ***Education:*** *Voters have a strong desire to keep improving our school system to keep up with the technological age in which our children and grandchildren are being raised. I pledge to support in every way possible funding for additional computers for our schools and/or additional material necessary to educate our children to use them. I will support the funding of education in any way possible.*

2. ***Senior Citizens:*** *Our senior citizens do not want political pandering. They obviously want to be treated fairly and they have a deep concern for issues which affect themselves as senior citizens, their children, and their grandchildren. I offer my support to work with the Mayor and other state and municipal officials to expand and improve our Senior Center and its services.*

3. ***DPW Garage:*** *A cross-section of our citizens have indicated they believe that a new DPW garage should be one high priority. Our present DPW garage is, as some describe, from the dark ages. DPW employees do a great job, but in 1997 we should have a new facility from which to provide services to our citizens. I pledge to work with other councilors and the Mayor to follow the necessary procedures to ensure a new DPW garage becomes a reality."*

Negrucci concluded, "These are just some priorities that citizens have told me about. I will continue to campaign with an open mind, listening to the concerns of the voters, and hope to outline more priorities after the primary. I ask for your support in the primary so as to continue to strive for a positive agenda for the Council."

Lawlor Blasts Mayor For ZBA Flap; Says Mayor Should Resign Post

"Chris Johnson and I used to be friends. While we now have significant disagreements on a number of municipal subjects, I continue to respect the man for his successes and hope that some day we'll again consider each other friends," said mayoral candidate Frank Lawlor in a campaign statement this week.

"His recent actions against the Zoning Board of Appeals may be dangerously close to illegal and are certainly the actions of a man trying to cover up something. His recent behavior has affected the entire community in a very negative way.

"As I discussed last week, Chris Johnson made a very serious error by appearing as an "Attorney for the Defense" on July 10, 1996, despite the fact that the ZBA had taken no position on the motion and that he had voluntarily changed his status with the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers to 'inactive.'

"Instead of admitting his mistake and doing whatever was necessary to rectify the situation, Chris authored an affidavit which he asked ZBA Chairman Ron Hebert to sign. This affidavit, which was to be signed "under penalty of perjury," was not, in Mr. Hebert's mind, an accurate account of the events of that July day, and therefore, he refused to sign it. Chris then bereated the building inspector and evicted the ZBA from the office space which it had occupied for more than 20 years. His tantrum continued for at least three days and during that time various members of the ZBA were denied access to their files and the work of the board was brought to a halt.

"Mr. Hebert was so upset by Chris' behavior, that he asked the council President to convene a special meeting, at which time he courageously detailed these troubling events. Meanwhile, Chris Johnson was spinning one farcical tale after another to the press in an effort to cover his behavior. He has misrepresented the truth and used the lame excuse that his opponents were 'playing politics.'

"Both Chris Johnson and I are politicans. The ZBA, like all boards in Agawam, is a nonpolitical entity and Mr. Hebert was certainly not playing politics. With each passing day, new and indisputable documents have emerged which put the lack of credibility to Johnson's comments. While he tries to cloud the issue and distract the electorate some basic questions remain...Why, Chris? Why did you ask another town official to sign an inaccurate affidavit? Who was the affidavit being sent to? Why did you act without the board's knowledge or authorization?

"This incident is simply the latest example of how Chris Johnson's actions have approached abuse of his power. His coverup of the debacle at Perry Lane, which jeopardized this community's ability to compete for much needed state funds is another recent example," said Lawlor. "We can also look back to the still unanswered questions surrounding the insurance consultant's contracts and the various shenanigans surrounding the Agawam Municipal Country Club. He has become living proof of Machiavelli's observation that 'power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.'

"The time has come for Chris Johnson to give serious thought to stepping down. Eight years ago, he came to office and has done a fine job as our Mayor. His actions of late, however, give me pause. I am concerned that this fine man has lost sight of what he was supposed to be doing. I'm concerned that he has now begun the slide down that slippery slope of ethical relativism toward some serious legal problems. For the sake of the people of Agawam and to preserve his own reputation and future, Chris Johnson should resign," concluded Lawlor.

Bitzas Seeks Unity & Cooperation On Council

"Unity and cooperation, not confrontation, are the most important elements that make it possible for any federal, state, or local government to function productively," said council candidate George Bitzas in a recent press release.

"Over the last few years, the attitude among the councilors and towards the administration has been for the most part confrontational. It is very difficult for the council to be productive when so many times a certain number of councilors seem to disagree for the sake of disagreeing, whether it be amongst ourselves or with the administration.

"We do need a change," said Bitzas, "a change for the better. We need to have councilors who want to work to continue moving Agawam in the right directions. We need to bring dignity, respect, and professionalism to our council meetings.

"I will continue to bring dignity, respect, and professionalism to our meetings. We are running the business of our town and I have always been very serious about this responsibility to the citizens of Agawam. If I am reelected, I promise to continue to work for the betterment of Agawam and try to bring the dignity, respect, and professionalism to our meetings that this position deserves.

"Please remember to vote this coming Tuesday, October 7th. Your vote is very valuable and I would greatly appreciate your support," concluded Bitzas.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997

Learn what's in Store for investors:

Free Seminar

The seminar will cover:

* Reduced capital gains taxes
* Increased IRA eligibility and deductibility
* Penalty-free early withdrawals from IRAs for first time home purchase and education expenses
* New IRA savings accounts for higher education
* New Roth IRAs - distributions are tax-free
* Lower estate taxes
* New tax credits for families with children
* And more...

Before you can take advantage of the first major tax cut in 16 years, you should understand the implications and the income limitations placed on some of the new changes. Prudential Securities can help. Prudential Securities is not a legal or tax advisor. However, its Financial Advisors will be glad to work with you, your accountant, tax advisor, and/or attorney to help you meet your financial goals.

Speaker: Donna Berthiaume, Financial Advisor
When: Wednesday, October 15 7:00 PM
Where: Captain Charles Leonard House
663 Main Street, Agawam

Admission is free but space is limited.
Call Debbie Goodwin today at 750-5607 for reservations.
www.prusec.com

Prudential Securities

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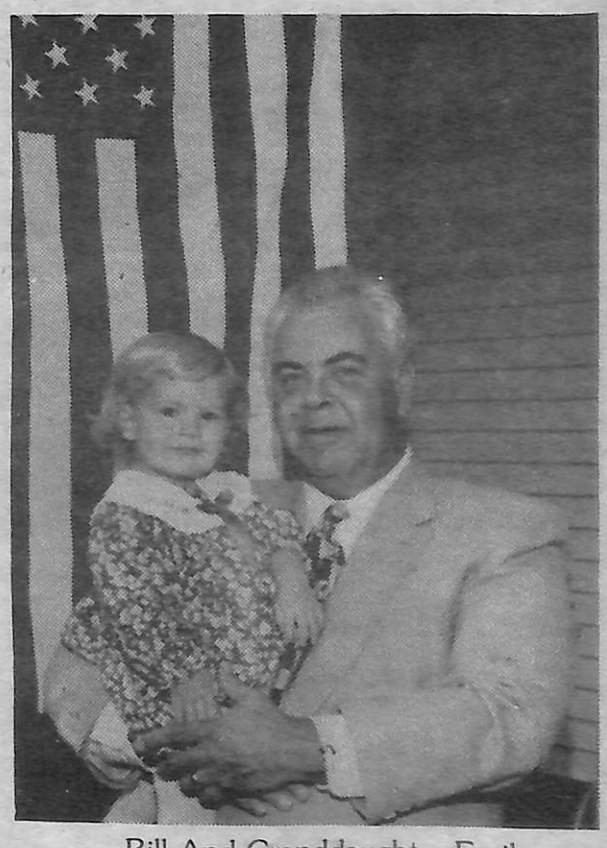
IT'S TIME FOR EULIANO

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18A



* Chairman Board Of Health - Certified -
* Graduate University Of Hartford - B.A., Psychology
* Operations Manager, Mfg. & Food Distribution Co.
* Vice-Chairman Italian Sister City Commission



Bill And Granddaughter Emily

BILL EULIANO FOR COUNCIL

"Sensible Qualified Leadership"

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Bill Euliano for Council, Susan Y. Euliano, Treasurer

Campaign '97 - continued...

Johnson Opens Campaign Headquarters





MAYOR CHRISTOPHER C. JOHNSON and supporters opened his campaign headquarters on Southwick Street in Feeding Hills Center on Saturday, September 27th. IN PHOTO LEFT, the Mayor is pictured with his wife, Anna; in photo right, he is pictured with Jessie D. Fuller and Maria Sutton. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1997, at 6:30 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of the SUNCOR DEVELOPMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, which is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180, Paragraphs 11 and 441 of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the creation of a drive-thru service window for a Walgreens' Pharmacy at the premises identified as: 288 WALNUT STREET.

Ronald A. Hebert, Chairman

Published: October 2, 1997

Best Local News...

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 8, 1997 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Agawam Planning Board for a proposed ordinance to amend the Agawam Zoning Ordinance to provide for a moratorium on wireless communication facilities and to amend Chapter 180, Article I, General Provisions, Section 180-2, Definitions and Word Usage and Section 180-8, Supplementary Regulations. A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office of the Agawam Town Clerk's Office.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: October 2, 1997

Check our classifieds

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Elect

BOB MAGOVERN

City Council

Magovern Agawam

"Doing What's Right For Agawam"

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VOTE

JOSEPH LANGONE

- Honors Graduate Of Assumption College
- Instructor, Massachusetts Career Development Institute

HIS RECORD

★ Voted **YES** On Ordinance Regulating Electronic Gaming Devices
★ Voted **YES** On Annual Operating Budget
★ Voted **YES** To People's Right To Referendum On Berkshire Power
★ Initiated And Chaired Italian Sister City Commission

THE COURAGE TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR AGAWAM



LANGONE FOR COUNCIL

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Langone, Council, Ellis L. Langone, Treasurer

Campaign '97 - continued...

Donald M. Rheault Seeking Seat On Agawam Council

Former 14-year City Council veteran Donald M. Rheault formally announces his candidacy for this year's City Council race.

"Councilors must exhibit the ability to put people and the issues before politics," Rheault sates. "As a former council president for seven years (the longest to date), six different councils showed their confidence in my ability to foster fair and open debate on the issues by electing me as their president.

"The need for strong and fair leadership on our council has never been more apparent, and I believe that I have proven I can conduct myself in the professional manner that Agawam deserves."

Rheault stated, "The focus of almost all people I have met during my campaign has been on Berkshire Power. It appears that this will be a pivotal issue. This project will **impact all of Agawam** for our entire lives, yet it took **election year politics** before our present council allowed us to have a say on this important issue via referendum. After careful research, I do not feel this is in Agawam's best interest.

"I urge voters to look beyond the megabucks Berkshire Power has spent and will continue to spend to **sell** you on this project. They (Berkshire Power) will benefit much more than the Town of Agawam ever will. The impact of our most precious commodity, our **drinking water (1½ million gallons a day)** in my opinion is reason enough to question the need for this project," said Rheault.

Rheault is the owner of an Agawam-based business, The Message on Hold Network of New England. "As a businessman, I am obviously concerned with the fiscal management of our town budget. I feel I am able to carefully scrutinize the budget and provide optimum benefit to the taxpayer. I also will advocate the Mayor define by line item **every expense** so we, as a council, are **fully informed** and you, as taxpayers, will have **complete accountability.**

"I presently serve on the Board of Directors of the Agawam Chamber of Commerce, the Sacred Heart Church Parish Council, a veteran, and



DONALD M. RHEAULT

Honorary Deputy Sheriff, a former Agawam Lions Club member, and have resided in Agawam for over 50 years.

"I was co-founder of the Agawam Athletic Association, former chairman of the Sacred Heart Athletic Association, and coached many youth teams for several years.

"Both my wife (Joan Mercadante) and I, along with our three sons, Michael, Brian, and Scott, are graduates of the Agawam School System. We presently have nine grandchildren, all in Agawam, and **I have a deep concern for their future.**

"I have decided to again seek a council set because of my life's commitment to serving the town and feel that at this crucial time in Agawam's history, **a voice of experience and integrity is again needed.**

"I humbly ask for one of your votes," concluded Rheault.

Geiger Announces Candidacy For Town Council

In a campaign statement released this week, council candidate Gary F. Geiger said, "My name is Gary Geiger and I am proud to announce my candidacy for Agawam Town Council. I am a lifelong resident and when asked where I am from, I have always been proud to say, 'I live in Agawam.' It is for this reason that I seek the position of Town Councilor.

"There are several issues that contribute to my decision to run for Town Council; the most influential being the lack of cohesiveness and constant fighting within the current council," said Geiger. "If elected, I will conduct myself in a professional manner and debate intelligently, soley with our town's best interests at heart. I can also promise that, barring emergencies, I will be in attendance at every council meeting. If you give me your vote, I will be there to represent you.

"Unfortunately, this election has centered largely around one issue; Berkshire Power. As with the casino, this issue should also have been given to the voters. Granted, it is neither feasible nor practical to allow frequent votes on potential businesses, but this is a huge project that will have an unequivocal impact on our community. One cannot lose sight of the fact, however, that there are hundreds of issues that the Town Council will confront, each having a specific effect on our town. I HAVE NO POLITICAL TIES. I HAVE NO HIDDEN AGENDA. I pledge to represent the citizens of Agawam," said Geiger.

"I am currently employed by Friendly's Ice Cream Corp. as the General Manager of their Windsor Locks restaurant. I have been involved with the youths of Agawam for 18 years having coached both football and wrestling for Agawam High School. I live in Agawam with my wife, Lynne, and my children, Danny (8), CoriBeth (6), and Casey (2).

"I respectfully ask for your vote on Tuesday. I want this town to be a great place for our children to grow up. A town in which they can proud to say, "I live in Agawam.'"

Check our classifieds

LEGAL NOTICE **LEGAL NOTICE**

TOWN OF AGAWAM

APPROVED ORDINANCE
TOR-97-8
AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AGAWAM ZONING ORDINANCE CHAPTER 180, ARTICLE VIII, BUSINESS A DISTRICT, SECTION 180-44, PERMITTED USES.

WHEREAS, the Planning Board deems it necessary to amend the Town of Agawam Zoning Ordinances to address evolving and changing situations and matters, and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board has sponsored this ordinance amended and is requesting that the Council adopt this zoning ordinance amendment, and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Agawam to update and amend its zoning ordinances, and

NOW THEREFORE, the Agawam Town Council hereby amends Section 180-44 of the Code of the Town of Agawam, which amendment shall be effective upon passage, by adding Section 180-44l to read as follows:

180-44l — Drive-thru service windows utilized by any business shall require a Special Permit from the Board of Appeals in conformance with Section 180-11.

Dated this 18th day of September, 1997.
PER ORDER OF THE AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL
Kent P. Servis, Council President
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
Thomas S. Locke, Solicitor
Published: October 2, 1997

VOTE OCT. 7TH

DISC JOCKEY SERVICE

MUSIC BOX PRODUCTIONS
CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL
DJ TOM MELBOURNE

PROVIDING THE VERY BEST IN ENTERTAINMENT AND SOUND

- *COMPLETE* AND *CURRENT* MUSIC LIBRARY
- PROFESSIONAL SOUND SYSTEM
- HIGH ENERGY LIGHT SHOW *(upon request)*
- CROWD MOTIVATING DANCES
- PARTY PROPS. ***AND MUCH MORE!***

(413)-789-6788

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The Agawam Democratic Committee

is proud to endorse the following members who are running in the October 7th Primary:

For City Council:
Ed Caba
Abraham Kasparian
Gina Letellier
Louis Russo

For School Committee:
Teresa Kosloski
Rosemary Sandlin

The above candidates are endorsed by the following:

Rudy Altobelli
Doug Bodman
Ed Borgatti
Ed Caba
Gaery Costa
Jack Devine
Barbara Dunn
Tom Ennis
Joe Fitzpatrick
Cornelius Hannigan
Ron Hebert
Abe Kasparian
Teresa Kosloski
Tom Leahy
Kent Servis
Gina Letellier
Scott Letendre
Mary Manning
Dave Modzeleski
Valentine Moreno
Jack Rioni
Mark Rondinelli
Richard Theroux
Louis Russo
Gail Russo
Rosemary Sandlin
Maureen Scibelli
Paul Trimboli
Michael Tuckey
Meanette Vermes

Paid for by the Agawam Democratic Committee. Mary Manning, Treasurer.

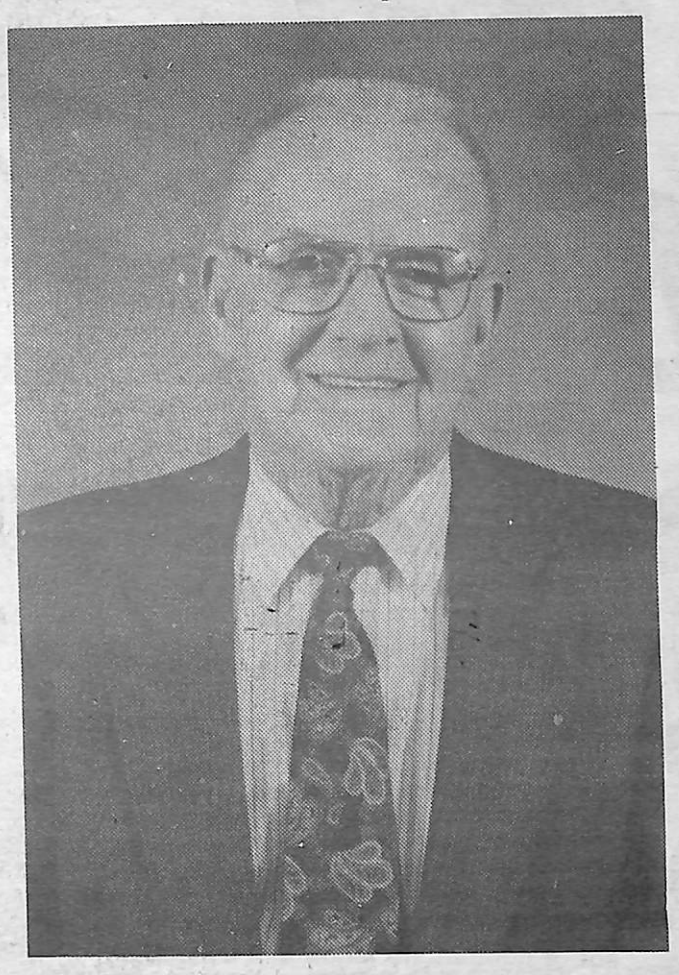
Campaign '97 - continued...

Johnson, Mrs. Fuller Endorse Quatrone





TOWN COUNCILOR CHRIS QUATRONE, who is seeking reelection this fall, has received the endorsement of former Town Councilor and School Committee member Jessie D. Fuller (left) and Mayor Christopher C. Johnson (right).



EDWARD A. CABA

Caba Offers Years Of Experience For Reelection To Town Council

In a campaign statement issued this week, Edward A. Caba said, "I am again privileged to offer to you my candidacy for reelection to the City Council.

"Since the early 60's, I have had the honor of serving you, the town and city, as Town Meeting member, Town Clerk, Town Manager, and City Councilman. I have also served as Council President. It has been a very rewarding and educational tour of duty," said Caba.

"I take a great deal of pride in the progress the city has made and what is ahead of us in the future. We have one of the finest industrial parks in the area, our school system is in good condition, we have had no layoffs, our tax rate is affordable, our town services have not been cut and are second to none.

"Our city has a great deal of potential and in the spirit of cooperation, we can move forward in the direction from which we can all benefit. We must work collectively as a team, not as individuals. Working together as a team, we can achieve all of the goals which will benefit our city.

"I have enjoyed serving all of our people at all times and never have evaded any issue which came before the council for action. When any matter came up for a vote, my vote was not because it was the popular thing to do. I always voted keeping in mind 'what was best for Agawam' and all of our people. My decisions will always be on the merits and what is best for Agawam overall.

"I will continue to be a strong advocate of working for all of our citizens and fight for their right to be heard on all issues granted to them by our charter. I will never deny anyone the right to vote on any issue. This is their constitutional right.

"I look forward to serving you for two more years so that I can be part of accomplishing more changes and/or improvements that you are concerned with in educational opportunities for our students, public safety and the well-being of our senior citizens, land preservation and zoning laws, and charter revisions acceptable by and with input from all of our residents.

"I am grateful for your support over the years and again would appreciate your continued support for giving me one of your 11 votes on Tuesday, October 7th.

"Thank you, and please exercise your right to vote," concluded Caba.

VOTE VOTE
Tuesday, Oct. 7th

LEGAL NOTICE **LEGAL NOTICE**

TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM TOWN COUNCIL

The Agawam Town Council will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 8, 1997 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Agawam Planning Board for a proposed amendment to Article I of the Zoning Code of Agawam, Sections 180-2, Definitions and Word Usage, and 180-B, Supplementary Regulations, regarding membrane structures. A copy of the proposed zoning amendment can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office of the Agawam Town Clerk's Office.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: October 2, 1997

Paid Political Ad Paid for by [illegible] Thompson Agawam Paid Political Ad

Re-Elect

NANCY E. THOMPSON

Agawam City Council



- Council President - 1995 & 1996
- President Mass. Municipal Councilors' Association
- Agawam Council on Aging - member for 8 years
- Secretary - Agawam Italian Sister City Commission
- Registered Nurse
- B.S. & M.S. - University of Massachusetts/Amherst

PULL LEVEL 26A

Paid Political Ad Paid Political Ad



Elect

BOB MAGOVERN

City Council

Paid for by Robert Magovern Agawam

"Doing What's Right For Agawam"

Campaign '97 - continued...

Signs, Signs, Everywhere Are Signs!



CANDIDATES AND THEIR SUPPORTERS flooded Feeding Hills Center this past Saturday morning to get the message out to motorists and passersby. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given under General Laws, Chapter 138, that MDH Associates, Inc., d/b/a Federal Cafe, 135 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA, has applied for Change of d/b/a to Carmelina's On The Hill, Transfer of Manager to Damien D. DiPaola, and Transfer of Stock, New Officers/ Directors/Stockholders. Building consisting of: a two story wood frame building with the first floor accessed from the front, containing a main dining area consisting of approximately 2,000 sq. ft.; a parlor area and a lounge/restroom consisting of 1,000 sq. ft.; first floor also consists of 600 sq. ft. Bar and lounge and a 500 sq. ft. Dining area; at the rear of the building on the first floor is a 1,000 sq. ft. Kitchen and a rear entrance. The second floor consists of a 500 sq. ft. private dining room, storage closets, restrooms and offices. The basement contains a workshop area, storage rooms, and a boiler room. Public hearing to be held on Tuesday, October 14, 1997, at 7:00 pm, in the Faolin Peirce Room, Agawam Police Headquarters, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA.

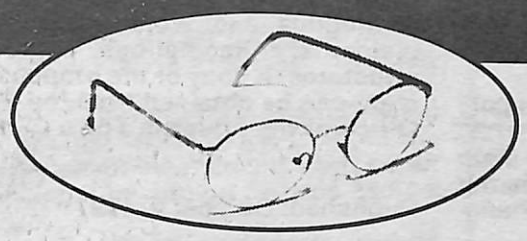
LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION
Robert Vanderhoof, Chairman
Richard A. DiLullo
John J. Chriscola, Jr.

Published: October 2, 1997

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CCBA Holds Fundraiser At Maria's



CHILDREN of or children of supporters of the Concerned Citizens & Businesses of Agawam (CCBA) were selling desserts at the group's recent fundraiser at Maria's Pizza. Kids in the photo are Kelly Doyle, Amanda Medeiros, Kate Ratkiewicz, Ashley Richards, and Katelyn Doyle. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



ATTENDING THE CONCERNED CITIZENS & BUSINESSES OF AGAWAM (CCBA) fundraiser at Maria's Pizza were Wesley Bradford, Anne Bradford, and Loraine LeDuc. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



IN THE KITCHEN FOR THE CONCERNED CITIZENS & BUSINESSES OF AGAWAM (CCBA) fundraiser at Maria's Pizza included, from left - Tony Cuccovia, Cathy Richards, Maria Cuccovia, Barbara Peterson, Gina Letellier, and Kevin Doyle. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

LEGAL NOTICE **LEGAL NOTICE**

PUBLIC HEARING
TOWN OF AGAWAM

In accordance with Article 8. Section 8-1(b) of the Agawam Town Charter, the Agawam City Council will conduct a public hearing on Monday, October 20, 1997 at 7:30 P.M. at the Agawam Middle School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA in regards to Berkshire Power Development Corporation and to provide additional information to the council and residents and to have an official vote on whether or not a majority of the city council supports such a proposal, to build a power plant in Agawam.

Ursula Retzler
Clerk of the Council

Published: October 2, 1997

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Mayor's Snafu With Hebert, ZBA Appears To Be At Truce Status

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

By the time the dust settled last Friday afternoon, a week-long dispute between the Mayor and the chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) was over. The five-member board was back to business as usual and Town Council had agreed to ask the District Attorney's Office to look into the circumstances surrounding the snafu.

By the beginning of this week, the details of the cause of the blow-up, as well as what was actually said during the argument, were still in dispute. But, both parties appeared ready to call a truce.

The argument was either precipitated by a disagreement over an affidavit relating to a July 1996 court appearance, or was the culmination of an ongoing dispute over the ZBA's claimed failure to obtain legal advice on the wording of their decisions.

The upshot of the argument was either the ouster of the ZBA from its office space and support personnel in the Building Department, or the stated intention of the Mayor to look at whether it made sense for the town to continue support services for the board (in the face of the ZBA's history of not looking to the town's Legal Department for advice on controversial rulings, according to Johnson).

As an appointee of Town Council, ZBA Chairman Ronald A. Hebert said he asked Council President Kent P. Servis for an executive session of the council to discuss office space for the board after he was told by Building Inspector Nick Urbinati that the office space and secretarial support the board had been using for more than 20 years was no longer available to the ZBA.

Servis called a special meeting in open session on Thursday, September 25th, as a fact-finding hearing to find office space for the board.

After hearing from Hebert and ZBA members Doreen Prouty and Ray Gendron, the council unanimously agreed to provide office space for the board in the council office at Town Hall.

In a 5-3 vote, the council also agreed to ask the district attorney to investigate any wrongdoing on the Mayor's part with regard to the ZBA dispute and any wrongdoing related to the affidavit that Hebert says touched off the fight.

Voting in favor were Servis, Council Vice-President Edward Caba, and Councilors Thomas Ennis, Dennis Perry, and David Skolnick. Opposed were Councilors George Bitzas, Jill Simpson, and Gary Suffriti. Councilors Nancy Thompson, Joseph Langone, and Chris Quatrone were absent.

But, by the next day, alternate office space for the ZBA was a moot point as Hebert and Johnson agreed the board should remain in its present quarters.

On Monday, September 29th, Hebert told us, "Things are somewhat back to normal. I would hope that the ZBA could go back to functioning as a fully independent board of Agawam."

Dispute Was Not About ZBA's Autonomy...

Johnson said the dispute was not about the ZBA's autonomy in reaching decisions, but about the way the decisions were written (without legal advice which has led to three high-profile cases being overturned on appeal).

But, ZBA members disputed the number of cases that have been overturned at the council meeting.

"We all have to work together to make the changes we need to make (to avoid having ZBA decisions overturned on appeal)," Johnson said. "Perhaps the answer is to provide a law clerk or an intern to work with the ZBA."

Just as they still don't agree over whether the ZBA was ever actually thrown out of their Town Hall office, Johnson and Hebert don't agree on the details of the affidavit Hebert was asked to prepare concerning legal representation for the board at a July 10, 1996 hearing in Northampton Superior Court.

Hebert said he was asked to sign an affidavit describing the events leading up to Johnson's appearance at a hearing concerning the proposed Berkshire Power project after the board had reached a settlement agreement resolving their differences with the power developers.

Court transcripts show Johnson spoke on behalf of the ZBA in opposing a motion to intervene in the case filed by neighbors of the proposed power plant.

Hebert said he was asked by the Mayor to sign an affidavit attesting to the fact that he had asked the Mayor to give oral arguments in the case because Town Solicitor Thomas Locke was ill and unable to attend the hearing and Associate Solicitor Charles Sclafani was moving his office and could not be reached.

Hebert Changed The Affidavit...

But, Hebert said he changed the affidavit to reflect his memory of having understood that Sclafani had finally been reached and would be appearing on behalf of the board. Hebert said he did not know why the affidavit had been requested.

Confirming that a complaint has been filed with the Board of Bar Overseers (BBO) by Town Council candidates Louis Russo and Karl Stieg to determine if he was practicing law without a license at the 1996 hearing, Johnson said the issue was motivated purely by politics.

"The hearing was in July 1996, but the complaint letter is dated August 18, 1997," Johnson said. "How come they waited till the middle of the election season to do this?"

Johnson said the timing of the BBO complaint ensured a cloud of suspicion would be hanging in the air as voters go to the polls because there isn't time enough for the BBO to complete its investigation before the election.

Johnson said his license to practice law was inactive at the time of the July 1996 hearing, but no rules were broken because he appeared in court as the mayor, not as an attorney for the town or the ZBA.

Johnson said Sclafani explained to the court that he was not prepared to argue the motion that had been submitted by Attorney Locke. However, Sclafani asked the court if Johnson, who was more familiar with the research, could address the court as the mayor.

"Throughout oral arguments, the court addressed me as Mayor, not Attorney, Johnson. I don't know how doing something to help the Legal Department out has been turned into such a negative," Johnson said.

Johnson said he was told by the court clerk that everyone who gives oral argument in Northampton Superior Court must sign a notice of appearance. The pre-printed document includes the words "attorney for," but Johnson said he signed the document giving his address and telephone number at Town Hall in his capacity as mayor.

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 9, 1997 at 7:30 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of the Town of Agawam for work to be performed on River Road, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: October 2, 1997

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

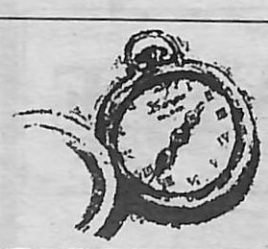
The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 9, 1997 at 7:15 PM in the Faolin Peirce Community Room, Agawam Police Station, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. The purpose of this hearing is to hear the petition of the Town of Agawam for work to be performed on Barry Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
Published: October 2, 1997

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Happy 1st Birthday, Kayla & Janessa



Love, Hugs & Kisses...
Mom, Grandma, Grandpa,
Auntie Kelley And Uncle Tim

Agawam Obituaries

Carolyn Thurston

West Suffield: Carolyn (Barry) Thurston, 79, of 114 Cosgrove Avenue, Agawam, died at her daughter's West Suffield, Connecticut home.

Born in Malden, she was a longtime resident, and lived in Melrose. She lived in Agawam for 15 years.

She was a former member of the Melrose Women's Club, and belonged to Child and Family Services of Suffield, CT.

Her husband, Harold W. Thurston, died in 1990.

She leaves two daughters, Betty A. Brew of West Suffield and Janice C. Boccuzzo of San Jose, California; a sister, Ruth Willey of Melrose; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, with the burial at Springfield Street Cemetery in Feeding Hills.

Myrtle I. Pratt

Myrtle I (MacEachern) Pratt, 83, of Hyannis, died in that town recently.

She was a 30-year licensed practical nurse at Westfield State Sanitorium, and retired in 1979.

Born in Braintree, she was a 1932 graduate of Braintree High School, and was crowned Miss Onset the same year.

She lived in West Springfield, Westfield, Agawam, and South Weymouth before moving to Hyannis in 1995.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Augustus Kiusalas, and her second, Stephen F. Pratt.

She leaves a son, Richard Kiusalas of West Barnstable, and three grandchildren, Stephen Kiusalas of Boulder, Colorado, Andrea Flint of Brighton, and Tara Kiusalas-Connors of North Attleboro.

The funeral was held at C.C. Shepherd Funeral Home in South Weymouth, with the interment at Blue Hill Cemetery in Braintree.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cape Cod Hospice, 923 Main Street, Yarmouthport, MA 02675.

David L. Johnson

David L. Johnson, 64, of Chicopee, died at an Agawam nursing home.

He worked in the maintenance department of the Postal Service Bulk Mail Center in Indian Orchard for 17 years, and retired in 1991. He worked previously at Belchertown State School and the Springfield Armory.

Born in Chicopee Falls, he attended Chicopee Trade High School, and was an Army private first class in the Korean War.

He attended the Chicopee Falls United Methodist Church, was in the Moose, and was a lifelong resident of Chicopee.

He was a past member of the Tigers Athletic Club, and a past president of the Oregon Sportsmen's Club.

He leaves a sister, Phyllis A. McCarthy of Springfield, and nieces and nephews.

The funeral was held at Tylunas Funeral Home, and memorial contributions may be made to the Moose, 244 Fuller Road, Chicopee, MA 01020, or the church at 55 Broadway, Chicopee, MA 01020.

Alfred P. Bedard

Alfred P. Bedard, 69, of 50 School Street, Agawam, died at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield.

He worked at Easco Hand Tool Co. (formerly Moore Drop Forge Co.) in Springfield for 34 years, and at Bolduc Trophies in West Springfield for 25 years.

Born in Manchester, New Hampshire, he was raised in Springfield, and moved to Agawam 34 years ago.

He leaves his wife, the former Blanche R. Brochu; three sons, Alfred P. Jr. of Springfield, Daniel E. of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and David C. of Chicopee; a daughter, Denise T. Bedard of Agawam; two brothers, Joseph of Colchester, Vermont, and Lionel of Springfield; three sisters, Jeanette Gosselin of Chicopee, Simone Fitzsenry of Ludlow, and Lorraine Harbaugh of Tacoma, Washington; two grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter.

The funeral was held at Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home and St. John the Evangelist Church, with the burial in Center Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Mark Callahan Fund, in care of the Pioneer Valley Visiting Nurse Association, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102-9058.

Ethel Goldberg

Ethel (Fine) Goldberg, 92, of 354 Elm Street, East Longmeadow, died in Agawam nursing home.

She worked with her husband, Daniel Goldberg, who owned United Cigars of Brooklyn, New York, for many years, and retired in 1960.

She was born in New York City, and lived there until moving to Florida in 1960.

She lived in Agawam for eight years.

She leaves her husband; two grandchildren, Jeffrey M. Schiff of East Longmeadow and Lonny C. Schiff of Springfield; five great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Her daughter, Ruth Schiff-Derman, died in 1977.

A graveside service was held at Hillcrest Park Cemetery in Springfield, and Forastiere-Smith Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Walter E. Dickinson

Walter E. Dickinson, 72, of 27 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, died at home.

He was a 20-year machinist for Hamilton Standard in Windsor Locks, CT. He later worked as a banquet coordinator at the Sheraton Inn, West Springfield, and at the High Point Motor Inn, Chicopee.

Born in Springfield, he was a graduate of Springfield Tech High School and lived in Springfield before moving to Agawam four years ago.

He was a World War II Army veteran.

His wife, Barbara T. (Lemnah) Dickinson, died in 1996.

He leaves a son, Stephen of Springfield; a daughter, Cheryl Gregory of Agawam; two sisters, Mildred Allard of Agawam and Shirley Skiffington of East Longmeadow; and two grandchildren.

The funeral was held at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, East Longmeadow, with burial in Agawam Center Cemetery.

Colonial Funeral Home of Agawam was in charge of the arrangements.

Magdalen G. Fleming

Magdalen G. Fleming, 78, of 61 Cooper Street, Agawam, died in a local nursing home.

Born and educated in Honolulu, Hawaii, she had been a resident of the Agawam-Springfield area for more than 40 years.

She leaves four nephews, William Raymond of West Springfield, John Raymond of Clearwater, Florida, Robert Raymond of Suffield, CT, and Donald Raymond of South Yarmouth; a niece, Janet Lalli of Feeding Hills; and a foster sister, Sheelagh Roache of Holyoke.

Her sister, Theresa Raymond, died in 1994.

The funeral was held at the Colonial-Forastiere Funeral Home, 985 Main Street, Agawam, followed by a Mass in St. John the Evangelist Church, with burial in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of Pioneer Valley, 50 Maple Street, P.O. Box 9058, Springfield, MA 01102.

Charles A. Morris

Charles A. Morris, 61, formerly of Westfield, died in Fort Myers, Florida.

He was a lineman at New England Telephone and Telegraph Co., and was also a forman at Stacy Machine Co. of Agawam.

Born in Westfield, he graduated from Westfield Trade School.

He served in Korea with the Marine Corps.

He leaves his wife, Bonnie (De Gray) Morris; five sons, Andrew C., Stephen J., Richard F., William M., and Michael D., all of Westfield; a daughter, Missie Hickman; a brother, Michael, and a sister, Mary Parody, both of Westfield; and seven grandchildren.

The funeral was held at Firtion Adams Funeral Home, followed by a liturgy of Christian burial at St. Mary's Church. Burial was in the parish cemetery.

Ann Kampfer

Ann (Hmay) Kampfer, 80, of Feeding Hills, died in a local nursing home.

Born in Springfield, she moved to Feeding Hills in 1962.

Her husband, Robert D. Kampfer, died in 1984.

She leaves two sons, Douglas R. of Westfield and Richard A. of Vermont; four brothers, Casmir of Southbridge, Frank of Dudley, Edward C. of Las Vegas, and Thomas J. of Ann Arbor, Michigan; a sister, Victoria Bradley of Southbridge; four grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

The funeral was held at the Agawam Funeral Home, with burial in Springfield Street Cemetery.

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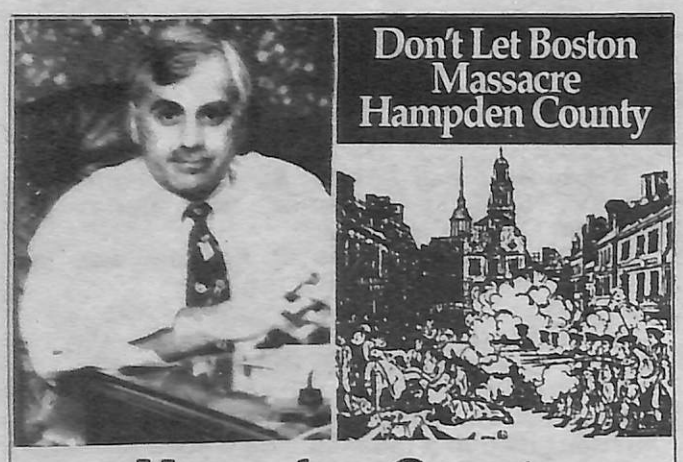
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Hampden County Review...

by Commissioner Abraham Kasparian

Legislators' Meeting

On September 26th, the Hampden County Commissioners hosted a meeting which brought our State legislative representatives together to discuss the implications that the abolishment of County government may have on local communities.

In attendance were Senator Michael Knapik, Representatives Daniel Keenan, Paul Caron, Mary S. Rogeness, and Walter A. DeFilippi, and aides for Representatives Gail Canderas and Dennis Murphy as well as Hampden County Commissioners Richard Thomas and Abe Kasparian, County Treasurer Rose Marie Coughlin, and other county officials.

The main topic of discussion was the potential problems with the county pension system if, as per current legislation, upon the abolishment of County government, the state will take current County employees and make them state employees and transfer them and their retirement savings (over $40 million) to the state retirement system.

This removal of a large portion of the retirement system will leave a void in the "pay as you go system" to be borne by the remaining local member units. County Treasurer Coughlin used Agawam as an example of the impact that this would have as **Agawam would need to pay roughly an additional $570,000 for the retirement system each year for the next 32 years.**

Commissioner Kasparian suggested that IF the goal of the abolition of County government is to save taxpayer money that the state could remain in the Hampden County Retirement System and leave the over $40 million in the sytstem. Based on the "pay as you go plan," the County employees that would become state employees would become the new member unit and would save the Hampden County Retirement System the additional liability and Agawam taxpayers would not be saddled with the putative additional payment of $570,000.

The transfer of County-held land was also a major topic. As you well know, the County land in Agawam will be transferred to the State with no compensation to local communities upon the dissolution of the County, according to current legislation. The commissioners, senators, and representatives are planning to write legislation which will ensure that Agawam obtains control of the 250 acres of County land with some type of compensation paid to the other cities and towns of Hampden County.

Also brought up at the meeting was the question of what will happen to County records, especially those dealing with County roads. We feel that these records should remain within the area and not be transferred to Boston as was the case with the abolishment of Middlesex County. Commissioner Kasparian proposed that if Hampden County is abolished, Hampden County Highway Engineer Frank Rueli, Jr. be retained and transferred to the registry of deeds and that the records that he has been maintaining for over 15 years be retained at the Hall of Justice and become a part of the registry of deeds in Springfield.

The legislators and Commissioners agree that these and other matters require a more thorough examination. A Task Force and joint study has been set up between the State Senate and the House specifically to further examine these issues and look into other possible ramifications of the abolishment of Hampden County government.

It was the consensus of the senators, state representatives, and the commissioners that more work needed to be done and the Legislative Task Force, of which Senator Knapik is a member, will continue to review these and other issues and have a report in January of 1998.

1998 Real Estate Tax Bills Have Been Mailed To Agawam Residents

The real estate tax bills for fiscal year 1998 were mailed on September 30, 1997. They show the total amount of taxes for fiscal year 1998. The total of all real estate bills equals $23,735,645.70. First-half payments, which total $11,908,064.72, are due by November 3rd.

The first-half payments represent the half of the taxes, plus any betterments or water and sewer liens. Second-half tax payments, due May 1, 1998, total $11,827,580.98. Any exemptions granted through September 19, 1997 are also reflected on the bill.

If a taxpayer wishes to question the fiscal year 1998 value as shown on the tax bill, they may pick up an application for abatement at the Assessor's Office anytime Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Abatement applications are due to the Assessor by November 3, 1997. Applications for abatement should contain proper documentation such as: sales of similar homes and/or land sales in the area. The documentation should be comparing ranch style homes with ranches, cape with capes, etc. Documentation should also be for homes in the same neighborhood.

When filing for an abatement, it is important that all information is filled out including telephone number, Social Security number, parcel identification, and signature of the owner or owners of the property.

The Assessor's Office will contact the person filing for an abatement to arrange for an inspection of interior and exterior of the property in question. The Assessor's Office has 90 days to review each application before notifying the applicant of the disposition.

Any questions concerning payments should be addressed to the Collector's Office. All payments are due in the Collector's Office by November 3, 1997. Massachusetts state law requires taxpayers to pay the bill whether it is received or not.

If you have not received your bill, please call the Collector's Office at 786-0400, extension 218. The Collector's Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The first-half tax bills are payable **in full** on November 3, 1997. If payment is not made by the due date, interest at the rate of 14 percent will be charged on the amount of the payment that is unpaid and overdue. Interest is computed on overdue first-half real estate tax payments from October 1, 1997 to the date payment is made.

Payments are considered made when received by the Collector. Taxpayers should allow sufficient time for the U.S. Postal Service to process the mail if payments are made by mail.

Agawam Seniors Can Work To Reduce Taxes

Agawam seniors who are 60 years of age or older, a homeowner, and a resident of the Town, have an opportunity to decrease their property tax bill by participating in a public service program.

Volunteers must agree to perform 100 hours of community service to receive a $500 voucher to use to reduce their property tax bill.

Volunteers must fill out an application form indicating their work experience and skills that may qualify them for potential job openings. Interviews are conducted, and the most qualified candidate is selected.

For further information or an application to apply, please visit the Personnel Office at the Agawam Town Hall or the Agawam Senior Center. The application deadline is October 17, 1997.

Our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime!!!

ADVERTISER NEWS

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Norman Townsend

Legislation On Genetics Continues To Move Says Melconian

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) is pleased with the progress of her legislation to protect the privacy of genetic information and genetic tests to prevent discrimination in the workplace and in obtaining insurance.

"Genetic testing is a new science, hardly an exact indication of the likelihood of contracting a disease," Melconian said. "Just because a person tests positive for the gene that causes a disease such as breast cancer does not mean that person will contract it."

The legislation would prohibit disclosure of the results of a gentic test without written consent of the individual taking the test. No employer would be able to require a genetic test as a condition of employment. The bill would also prohibit discrimination by insurance institutions based on genetic test results.

Melconian and others feel that although genetic tests are somewhat effective in determining whether a person is likely to develop diseases such as breast cancer and colon cancer, the results are not accurate enough to even consider denying an individual based on their results.

"No person should be discriminated against based on the results of a genetic test," Melconian said. "These tests are potentially lifesaving, and individuals should be encouraged, not discouraged, from taking them."

Similar legislation has recently been introduced by President Clinton, and other states, such as New Jersey, New York, and Georgia, have genetic testing protections. New discoveries of a gene that causes colon cancer has heightened that awareness and focused attention on the potential problems that have and could arise.

Melconian's legislation will be reviewed in Third Reading, and action is expected in the Senate in the next several weeks.

October 24, 1997 Is Last Date For Applying For Water Connections

The Agawam Department of Public Works has announced that October 24, 1997 is the last date for applying for water connections, water connection renewals, sanitary sewer connections, or storm drain connections for installation prior to this winter.

Connections applied for after this date will not be installed until the spring of 1998.

This notice does not apply to the homes in areas where connections have previously been installed to the property line.

VOTE

Veterans' Cemetery Slates Groundbreaking For October 8th

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Massachusetts Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Agawam will be held on Wednesday, October 8th.

A Parade of the Colors will begin at 10:15 a.m. from V.F.W. Post 1632 on South Street, Agawam, which is between the cemetery site and Riverside Park. The parade route is seven-tenths of a mile to the site, and the cemetery entrance is on Route 159 at the intersection of Main and River Road.

There will be free parking at Riverside Park, and Peter Pan shuttle buses will be on hand to transport you to the cemetery site.

The groundbreaking program will begin at 11:00 a.m. There will be some bleacher seats available, so try to get there early.

Following the groundbreaking ceremony, there will be a free luncheon/cash bar at the Picnic "Grove" at Riverside Park. Buses will transport you to the "Grove" from the cemetery site.

All are invited to attend and join us in the celebration!

Applications Available For Exam To Be Mass. State Trooper

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan has announced that the Massachusetts Department of State Police will be conducting a State Trooper Exam on February 7, 1998.

The last application filing **deadline is November 21, 1997.** Applications can be obtained from any State Police barracks or from the Human Resources Division at One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108. The examination will be administered at various locations throughout the state.

Basic duties of a trooper include patrolling the roadways of the Commonwealth, enforcing motor vehicle laws, engaging in crime prevention and reduction measures, preserving the peace, and providing protection to the public. In addition, troopers may also perform specialized law enforcement functions.

The Department is seeking highly qualified applicants who will maintain their mission of **"Excellence in Service through Quality Policing."** Women and minority candidates are especially encouraged to apply.

The Massachusetts State Police is the oldest statewide law enforcement agency in the nation. It was established in 1865. The Department uses the latest state-of-the-art equipment and training in carrying out its law enforcement functions and activities.

For additional information on the exam, please call The Human Resource Division at 1-800-392-6178, ext. 246, or the Massachusetts State Police Exam Hotline at 508-424-1121.

Town DPW Issues Advisory About Intersection Delays

The Town of Agawam's Department of Public Works wishes to advise motorists using Suffield Street, Shoemaker Lane, and South Street that construction at this intersection commenced on the morning of Wednesday, October 1, 1997. Work is expected to be completed by the end of October.

The construction project includes the installation of traffic signals, drainage improvements, and roadway widening.

Traffic will be maintained; however, delays can be expected.

Commuters should seek alternative routes or plan their travel time accordingly.

Melconian Notes That Insurance Policies At Banks Nearing Finality

Senate Assistant Majority Leader Linda J. Melconian (D-Springfield) has announced that the Senate is nearing passage of legislation that would allow Massachusetts banks to sell insurance policies as licensed agents.

"This legislation is excellent for consumers," Melconian said. "Customers have an increased choice in the purchasing of insurance, and protections are in place to make certain that consumers are treated fairly and legally."

Senate Bill No. 1948, *An Act Providing Consumer Protection Relative to the Sale of Insurance by Banks,* would authorize banks to engage in the practice of selling insurance. Banks would be forced to abide by the insurance laws of the Commonwealth, as well as guidelines established for such activity by national banks. The Commonwealth of Banks, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Insurance would be authorized to establish a procedure for the resolution of consumer complaints.

"I understand the need for safeguards," Melconian said. "This legislation will improve the industry, while keeping certain necessary regulations.

"Banks will not be allowed to coerce any customer into purchasing an insurance policy," Melconian continued. "The Commissioners of Banks and Insurance will see that the process is run smoothly."

The Senate-initiated legislation has received initial passage by the Senate. Melconian expects swift action from the Senate in the next several days.

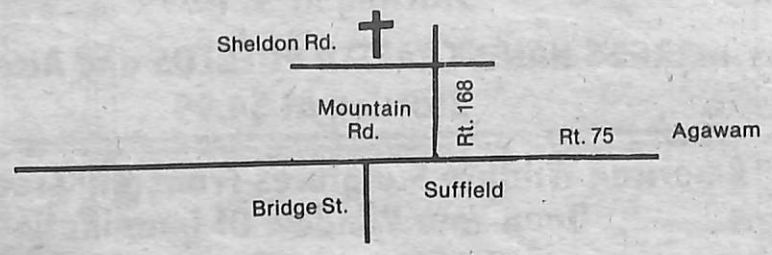


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Families

A Very Bear Woodcarving...





ON THE LAWN of the residences at 960 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. "Images In Wood Studio" artist Alan Reynolds (Burlington, Vermont) did a chainsaw carving of a bear standing atop a tree trunk. The bear carving is becoming a well-known landmark for passing motorists. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Southwest & Western Lifestyles
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The Silk Bouquet
GIFTS & COLLECTIBLES
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Display Only Until October 11.
Guest Appearance By Betty
Saturday Oct.4, 10am to 3pm
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Indian Orchard Music Box
$29.99 Without Music $39.99 With Music
Terra Cotta Pottery from The OSBORNE COLLECTION
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MARGE'S HAND-CRAFTED PUEBLOS and Accessories
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Open Your Window Of Imagination
Starting At $24.99

The Saint Jude Triduum
The Patron of the Hopeless
Sunday October 5th
Through
Tuesday October 7th
A Sacred Parish Retreat Honoring
The Patron Saint
Of Lost Causes and Hopeless Cases,



Solemn Vespers with Exposition
Sunday October 5, 7:15 PM
Anointing Service for Healing
Monday October 6, 7:15 PM
Festive Mass of Saint Jude
Tuesday October 7, 7:15PM
40 Hours Devotion
(From Sunday Vespers
through Tuesday Evening Benediction)
Exposition Sunday 7:15PM
Benediction Tuesday 7PM



Immaculate Conception
475 Main Street
West Springfield, MA
(413)736-4071



MR. & MRS. STEVEN A. MOCCIO

Jennifer R. Jorgensen Weds Steven A. Moccio

Jennifer R. Jorgensen and Steven A. Moccio were united in marriage on June 21, 1997 at Agawam Congregational Church, with the reception following at the Carriage House at Storrowton Tavern in West Springfield.

The bride is the daughter of Andrew and Susan Jorgensen of 26 Old Mill Road, Agawam. Parents of the bridegroom are Albert and Janice Moccio of 60 Royal Street, Agawam.

Stacy Thompson attended the bride as maid of honor. Anthony Moccio served his brother as best man.

Kerry Blackak, Shelly Mosher, and Sharon Waite served as bridesmaids. Eric Jorgensen, Todd Jorgensen, and Frank Moccio served as ushers. Janelle Thompson was the flower girl, and the newlyweds' son, Tyler Moccio, was the ring bearer.

The bride graduated from Agawam High School, currently studies nursing at American International College, and is employed at Baystate Medical Center's Children's Hospital as a technical associate. She has also attended Hartwick College in Oneonta, New York.

The bridegroom, a graduate of Agawam High School and Hartwick College, is a physics and earth science teacher, as well as the assistant varsity baseball coach, at Windsor High School in Windsor, Connecticut.

The couple, with their son, currently reside in Agawam.

Lisa Renae Layh Becomes Bride Of Jeffrey Dale Perreault

On June 28, 1997, Lisa Renae Layh, formerly of Hobbs, New Mexico, became the bride of Jeffrey Dale Perreault of Agawam during a 7:00 p.m., double ring ceremony held at Guardian Angel Cathedral in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The bride is the daughter of Rick and Sylvia Layh of Boulder, Colorado. The bridegroom is the son of Preston Perreault of Melbourne, Florida, and Peggy Gacona of Agawam.

The officiating clergyman was Father Daniel Reardon, and the bride was given in marriage by her father. The organist was Arthur Nelson, and the soloist was Ron Carter, who sang "A Love Until The End Of Time" and "The Wedding Hymn."

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Monte Carlo Resort in Las Vegas.

The maid of honor was Angela Layh of Boulder, sister of the bride. The best man was Kevin Perreault of Agawam, brother of the groom.

Serving as bridesmaids were the following friends of the bride: Ali Tanenbaum of Denver, Colorado, Stephanie Murray of Napa, California, Nikki Nelson of Ft. Collins, Colorado, and Jennifer Allen of Hobbs. The honorary bridesmaids were also friends of the bride, Monica Owensby of Hobbs and Nancy Farmer of Mt. Home, Arkansas. The flower girl was Brittany Cobb of Las Vegas.

The groomsmen were Greg Fehling of Easthampton, Massachusetts, cousin of the groom, and the following friends of the groom: Tom Stad of North Attleboro, Massachusetts, Paul Kazanofski of Las Vegas, and Jess Marchese of Las Vegas. The junior groomsman was Nicholas Cardaropoli of Agawam, brother of the groom, and serving as ushers were Scott Layh of College Station, Texas (cousin of the bride), Danny Layh of San Antonio, Texas (cousin of the bride), Jonathon Fehling of Easthampton (cousin of the groom), and Mark McCarthy of Boston, Massachusetts (friend of the groom). The ring bearer was Tyler Cobb of Las Vegas.

The bride is a 1991 graduate of Hobbs High School, and a 1996 graduate of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education.



MR. & MRS. JEFFREY D. PERREAULT

The bridegroom is a 1992 graduate of Agawam High School, and a 1994 graduate of Dean College in Franklin, Massachusetts, with an Associate Degree in Communications. He is currently employed as an American Frontier Hockey League Official.

Following their honeymoon on the islands of Maui and Kauai in Hawaii, the couple now reside in Helena, Montana.

Richard Mundo Is President Of W. Mass Association Of COA's

Richard Mundo, Executive Director of the Agawam Council on Aging, has been elected president of the Western Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging (WMACA). WMACA encompasses all of Berkshire, Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden Counties. There are 98 Councils represented in that area.

"We will continue to do what we do best — advocate for elders and Senior Centers throughout the region. The Commonwealth must elevate its level of funding to assist Councils in meeting the increased demand for their services," stated Mundo.

Mundo cited the increased number of elders as well as diminishing federal and local resources to meet those needs, and called for more state assistance.

Mundo has been the director of the Agawam Senior Center for the past 14 years.

Airman Keith Sidusky Graduates From Financial Course

Air Force Airman Keith A. Sidusky has graduated from the financial management apprentice course at Sheppard Air Force Base, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Students were taught principles of accounting, appropriation of funds, use of automated data processing equipment, and the general ledger system.

Sidusky is the son of Andrew Sidusky of 17 Amherst Avenue, Feeding Hills, and Jeannette I. Sidusky of 52 Sprague Street, West Springfield.

He is a 1996 graduate of Agawam High School.

Check our classified

ADVERTISER NEWS

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SAWMILL WOOD CHIPS
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JFK and Boston Sunday departures
*Ask your agent how to save $50 per person
Contact Cheryl at (413)786-1801



NOREEN SANDS & TODD L. BOUSQUET

Noreen M. Sands Engaged To Wed Todd L. Bousquet

Mr. Robert Sands of Miami Beach, Florida (formerly of Feeding Hills) announces the engagement of his daughter, Noreen M. Sands of Agawam, to Todd L. Bousquet. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bousquet, also of Agawam.

The bride-to-be is employed with Merrill Lynch Insurance Group in Springfield. Her fiance is employed with Terminex International in West Springfield.

An April 3, 1998 wedding date is selected in honor of the bride's mother, the late Diana M. Sands.

October Events For Agawam Golden Age Club, Chapter 2

October 15th: Regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Guest speaker will be Senator Linda Melconian.

October 28th: A trip to Aqua Turf for a "Halloween Party."

October 31st: Board of Directors' meeting at 1:00 p.m.

(At the present time, there are membership openings in both Chapter 1 and 2. Senior citizens in Agawam are invited to attend these meetings.)

Best local news...



MR. & MRS. PETER VECCHIARELLI

Dianne L. Mazzie Weds Peter Vecchiarelli

Sacred Heart Church in Springfield was the setting for the August 29th wedding of Dianne L. Mazzie and Peter C. Vecchiarelli. The bride is the daughter of Frank and Millie Mazzie of 916 St. James Ave., Springfield.

Parents of the bridegroom are Phil and Marie Vecchiarelli of 26 Kellogg Ave., Feeding Hills.

Attendants of the bride were Theresa Rondeau (matron of honor), Lisa Planzo, Heather Casineau, Kim Barbieri, Deana Nadeau, Christine Vumbaco, Teresa Russo, and Yolanda Buonfiglio. Jennifer Mazzie served as flower girl.

The groomsmen were David Vecchiarelli (best man), Dom Vecchiarelli, Dean Vecchiarelli, Phil Vecchiarelli, Scott Mazza, Ed Modzelewski, Chris Ollari, and Jeffrey Reece. P.J. Vecchiarelli served as the ring bearer.

The bride graduated from Central High School and American International College in Springfield, where she received her master's degree. She is a guidance counselor at Chicopee High School.

The groom is a graduate of Agawam High School and Westfield State College. He is a sales representative for Ideal Leasing.

Tag Sale Set For Sat., October 4th At Good Shepherd Church

Church of the Good Shepherd Episcopal will be holding a tag sale on Saturday, October 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the parish hall at 214 Elm Street, West Springfield. Rain or shine, come to shop or browse and take a break at the snack bar.

Space is available to anyone who would like to join the tag sale. The fee is $20 for an eight-foot table, $15 for a second table, and $10 for a card table.

For more information, call 734-1976 or 733-3420.



MR. & MRS. STEPHEN JARVIS

Carolyn Jochim Weds Stephen Jarvis At St. Patrick's Church

St. Patrick's Church in Chicopee was the setting for the recent wedding of Carolyn Jochim and Stephen M. Jarvis.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Jochim of 45 Liswell Drive, Feeding Hills. Parents of the bridegroom are Mr. and Mrs. Derek C. Jarvis of 122 Northwood Street, Feeding Hills.

Attending the bride as matron of honor was her sister, Cindy Jochim-Martin. Christopher C. Jarvis served his brother as best man.

The bride graduated from North Adams State College and Westfield State College, where she earned her master's degree. She is a special education teacher at Mary O. Pottenger School in Springfield.

Her husband, a graduate of the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, is a financial analyst at Fleet Bank in Worcester.

The couple is currently residing in Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

All the local news with us, each and every week...

HOMETOWN CANDLE COMPANY
"The Scents of Life"

35% Off
Spiced Pumpkin
October Scent
Of The Month

25% Off Summer Sunset

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- Bears & Porcelain Dolls
Crafts From Local Artists Displayed Throughout Store

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Deluxe 5 star
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Borders a lush
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$699
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- Traveler's Tips information booklet.

For more details, please call (413)786-1801

World War II Chorus Announces October Practice Sessions

In preparation for the November 19 performance, the World War II Chorus will hold a number of practice sessions during October, with a variety of times and days in order to make it possible for people to attend at least a few without other conflicts.

It is *still* possible to join the group, which is open to anyone in any age bracket and will perform in an informal setting at Agawam High School in presenting a number of songs (mostly with a war-related text) from the war years, but also including some of the top hits of those years.

Attendance at only a few of the practice sessions will make it possible for members to be prepared for the actual performance, which will also include a number by the Senior High Show Choir, some students from the Junior High Chorus, and some members of the Middle School Chorus as well as Mr. Spiro's fifth grade class.

Several excellent soloists have become members of the group and will be featured in the Concert, along with three young ladies who will present a "pre-teen" version of the Andrews Sisters in their rendition of "The Boogie-Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B." Audience participation in a number of songs will be welcome.

Members of the Senior Center Melody Band have volunteered to serve as the Pit Orchestra for the Concert.

All practice sessions in October for the World War II Chorus will take place at the Agawam Senior Center.

* ***At 7:00 p.m.:*** **Wednesday, October 8th; Thursday, October 16th; Tuesday, October 21st;** and **Wednesday, October 29th.**
* ***At 2:30 p.m.:*** **Tuesday, October 14th,** and **Tuesday, October 28th.**

AHS's Class Of 1972 To Hold 25th Reunion On Novmeber 28th

Agawam High School's class of 1972 will hold its 25-year reunion on November 28, 1997 at Alexander's in Feeding Hills.

If you know the addresses of any of the following missing classmates, please contact Diana Hopkins at 108 Monroe Street, Agawam, MA 01001:

Leonard Ares, Mark Beaulieu, Theresa Beaulieu, Charles Bewes, Bruce Conant, Gary Costa, William Daudelin, Sharon Davio, Doug Favereau, Mitzi Fay, Catherine Gale, Gary Gibbs, Cynthia Grimaldi, Tim Harrison, Melisa Holman, Debbie Knowles, Don Lamoureaux.

Steve Latour, Debbie Lynch, Maureen Moynihan, Linda Nelson, Richard Palin, Sue Peloquin, Robert Poisson, Joanne Raynor, Debbie Rex, Ken Robbins, Dennis Rock, Dan Rose, Robert Lombardi, Debbie White, Caron Wiggins, and **James Yarmac.**

Check our classified

The Checkered Cow

COME SEE WHAT'S NEW!

* Country and primitive furniture
* "Grungie" candles.
* Hand-painted gifts and seasonal decorations.
* Accepting VISA, MasterCard, and Discover credit cards.
* NOW BOOKING IN-STORE HOSTESS PARTIES!

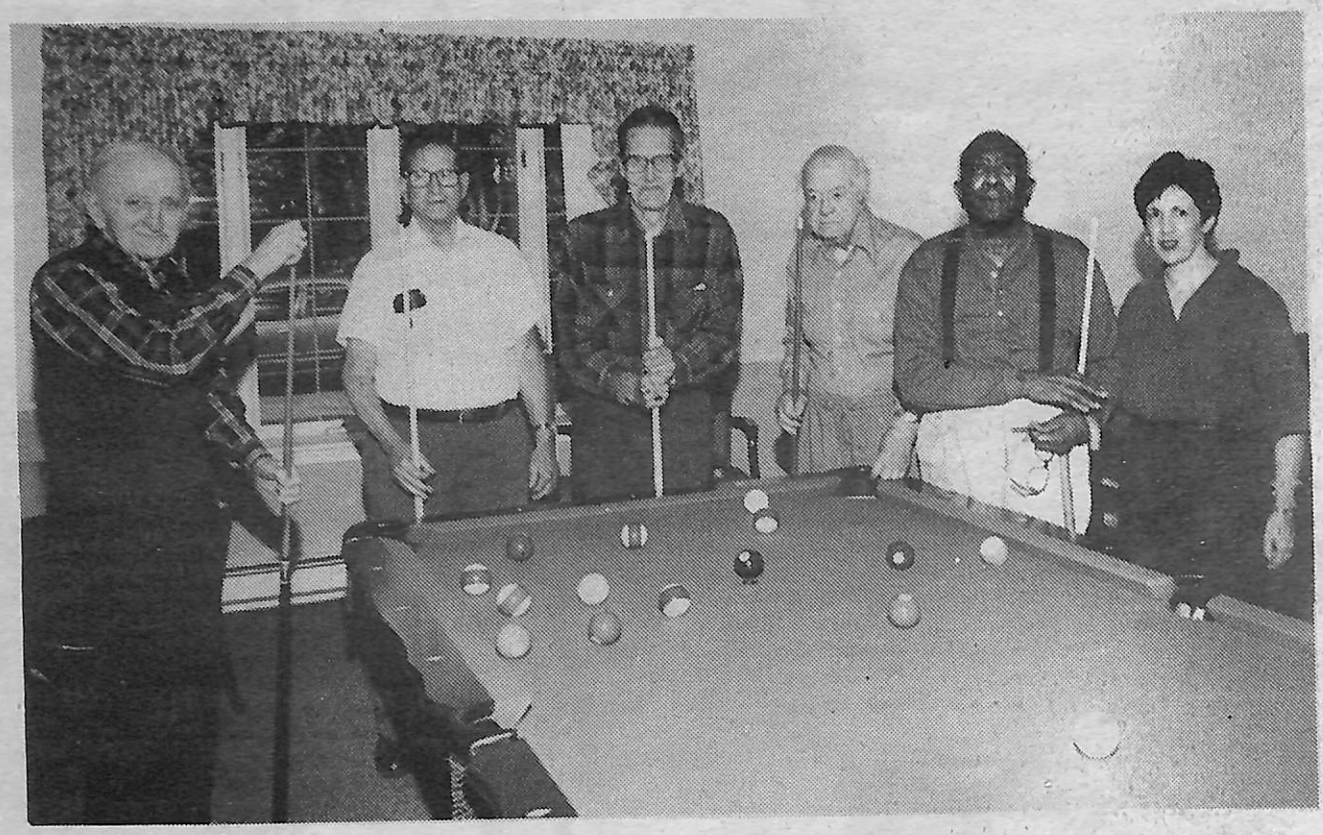
NOW OPEN SUNDAYS!

Bring this ad and receive 10% off one item!

559 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 786-6913

Open 6 days, closed Tuesdays

New Pool Table At Heritage Hall



RESIDENTS AT HERITAGE HALL NURSING HOME (North Building) have been enjoying a new pool table. From left - James Fappiano, Phil Potito, Rudolph Stone, Arnold Asher, Moses Griffin, and Kathy Newman. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Shear Illusions Plans Cut-A-Thon To Help Ag. Police Explorers

Shear Illusions, located at 497 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. will hold a "Cut-A-Thon" to benefit the Agawam Police Explorers on Sunday, October 5th, from noontime to 4:00 p.m.

Haircuts for kids (under 12) will be $7 each; men will be $10; women, $12.

Members of the Police Explorers will be fingerprinting youngsters at the "Ident-A-Kid" Booth during the "Cut-A-Thon."

For more info, call 786-7165.

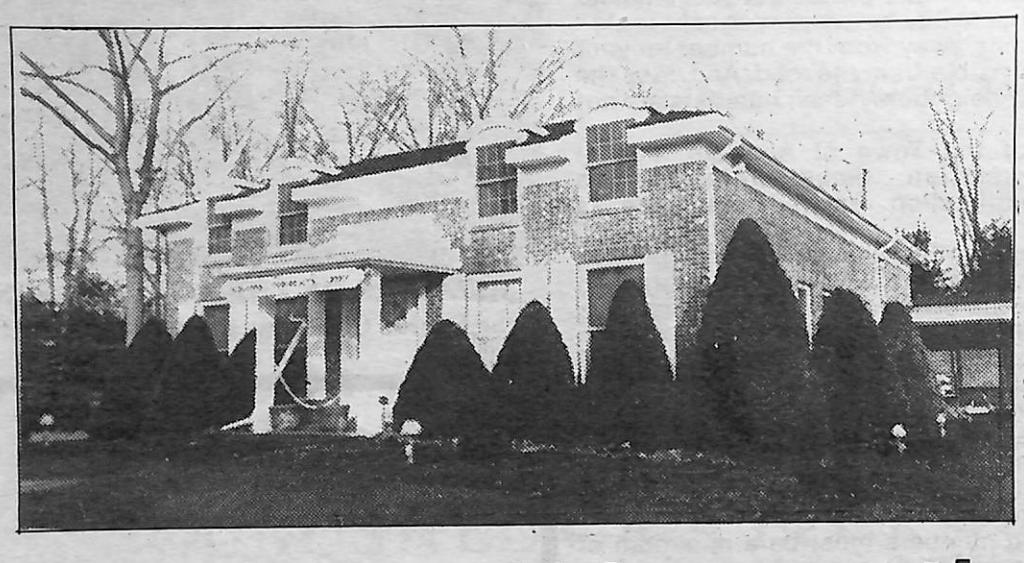
Applications Being Accepted For Polish Club's Craft Fair

The Women's Auxiliary of the Polish American Club of Agawam is accepting applications for its 15th annual craft fair to be held on Saturday, November 8th, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 139 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills.

For an application or more information, please contact Sandy at 786-2739.

All the local news ADVERTISER NEWS with us, each week

Drs. Joseph M. & Katherine S. Schlaffer



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192 Shoemaker Lane Agawam

For An Appointment—Call 789-1369 Or 789-1073

Serving The Agawam Area For 15 Years

Senior Citizens Olympic Committee Has Fundraiser





AGAWAM SENIOR OLYMPIC GAMES members participating in a recent fundraiser at the Agawam Senior Center included, from left - Chris Polumbo, Desiree Jacobs, Lynn Bright, Ginny Ingram, Vi Presz, Lena Peloquin, and Lorraine Fontaine. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Jr. Women's Club Wants To Know "Is Your Number Up?"

The Agawam Junior Women's Club would like to remind all citizens of Agawam the importance of having a number visible at all times on your home. The police and/or fire department needs this number to locate you in an emergency quickly.

A few seconds could mean the difference between life and death, and/or damaged or stolen property. So, if you've sided your house recently, or purchased a new one, please get your number up as soon as possible before winter sets in.

Trim all bushes away from the number on your home if it isn't visible from the road. And pass the word on to your neighbors if their numbers are not visible.

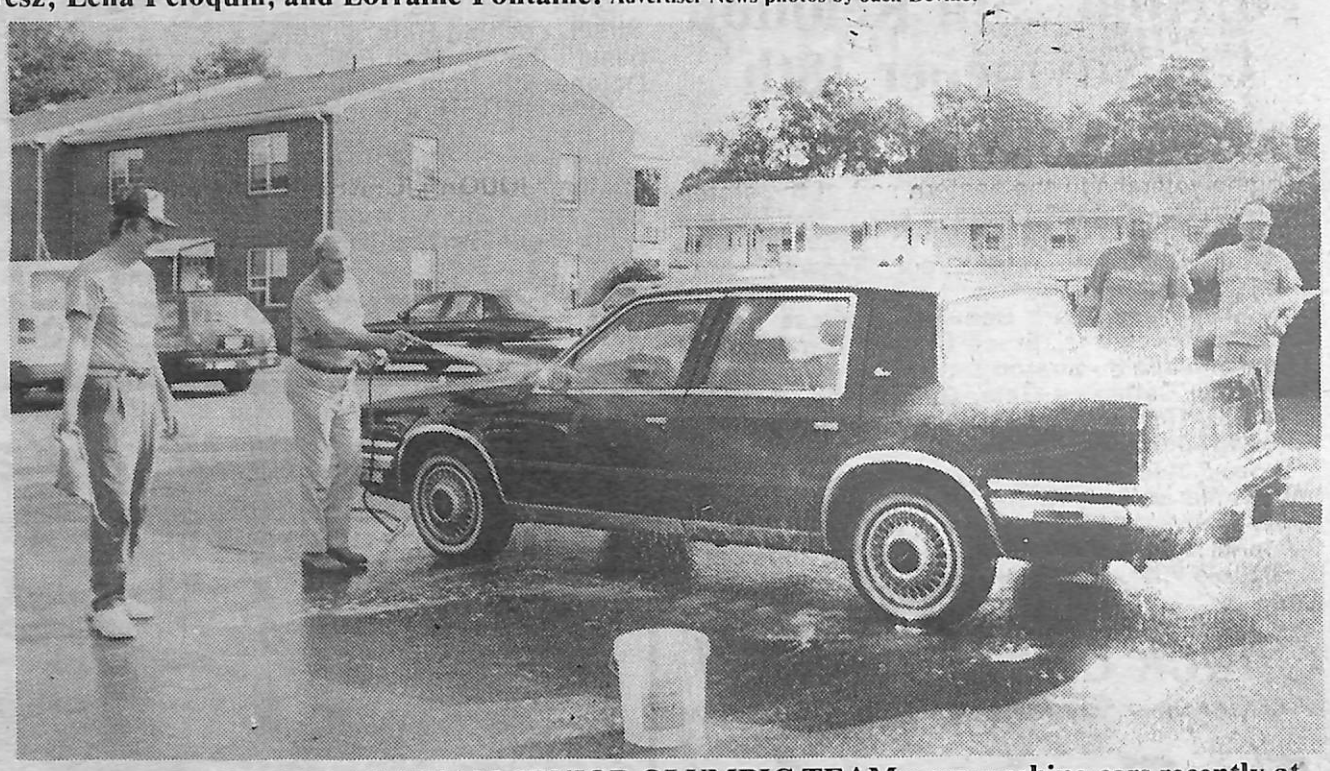
The code of the Town of Agawam, Part II -General Legislation, makes reference to numerical identification required and reads as follows:

1. Numerical identification of each dwelling, business, or industry in the Town of Agawam is to be provided by the owner and is to be placed in a clearly visible location on the structure located on the nearest exposure to the street. In the event that such structure is located two hundred (200) feet or more from the roadway, or in the event that such structure is not visible from the roadway, a numbered signpost shall be erected in a conspicuous location on or near the street entryway to the structure.

2. Identifying numbers must be a minimum of three (3) inches in height and be of a contrasting color so as to be visible from the roadway day or night.

3. The fine for not having a number up once you have been notified in writing is $15 and an additional fine of $15 for each 30-day period thereafter.

This message is brought to you by the Agawam Junior Women's Club, a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs and the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.



MEMBERS OF THE AGAWAM SENIOR OLYMPIC TEAM were washing cars recently at the Senior Center as a benefit for their various athletic endeavors. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Local Emblem Club To Meet Oct. 2nd

The West Springfield-Agawam Emblem Club will be having a Penny Social on Thursday, October 2nd at 7:00 p.m.

The doors open at 6:30 p.m. It will be held at the Elks Lodge, Morgan Road, West Springfield.

There will be a $1 donation. Come and have some fun!

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Service Department

Open Monday to Thursday
7:00 A.M. - Midnight
7:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. On Friday



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We Service And Honor Ford Motor Company Warrantees, Even If You Didn't Buy From Us!

SARAT FORD 245 Springfield Street Agawam **786-0430**

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, October 6th: Salisbury steak with peppers and onions on a roll, shell pasta and peas, salad, pears.

Tuesday, October 7th: Birthday cake, stuffed shells with sauce, tossed salad, Vienna rolls.

Wednesday, October 8th: Chicken leg, sweet potatoes, green beans, rye bread, chocolate pudding.

Thursday, October 9th: Cream of broccoli soup, hot dog on a roll, California blend veggies, peaches.

Friday, October 10th: Grape juice, baked macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, whole wheat bread, applesauce.

Women Veterans Being Sought For Vets Post 463

If you are an armed services woman veteran of any war, from World War I to the Persian Gulf, won't you please join your sister veterans in Post 463.

Pioneer Valley Post 463 is the only all-women American Legion in Western Massachusetts.

Our Post 463 has a yearly membership drive, and yet very few women veterans ever respond to our plea. Why. I, Rose Haynes, am at a loss to why you women veterans are hesitant in joining an all-women veterans group.

Won't you please call me at 786-2597 so I may be aware of the reason so few women veterans answer our call.

Post 463 meets the first Sunday of each month, except August, at 1:30 in the Grand Army of the Republic Hall, East Court Street, Springfield. The GAR Hall is located to the left of Symphony Hall.

The purpose of our Post 463 is first to help veterans (men and women) in need of the Pioneer Valley, and second, to support veteran ceremonies in the area, as well as those of women veterans in the eastern part of the state.

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Appeals will conduct a public hearing at the Agawam Middle School Cafeteria, 68 Main St., Agawam, MA on THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1997, at 6:45 P.M. for all parties interested in the appeal of the MR. & MRS. COLCORD, who are seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7, Paragraphs A and B of the Zoning Ordinances, which would allow for the construction of an addition with less than the required setback at the premises identified as: 585 SOUTH WEST STREET.

Ronald A. Hebert, Chairman

Published: October 2, 1997

Check our classified ads for local goods

Kevin L. Innarelli Joins U.S. Army Under Delayed Entry

Kevin L. Innarelli has joined the United States Army under the Delayed Entry Program at the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, Springfield.

The program gives young men or women the opportunity to delay enlistment into the Army for up to one year before reporting to basic military training.

The enlistment gives the new soldier the option to learn a new skill, travel, and become eligible to receive as much as $40,000 toward a college education. After completion of basic training, soldiers receive advanced individual training in their career specialty.

Innarelli is a 1992 graduate of Agawam High School and a 1996 graduate of Virginia Wesleyan College, Norfolk.

The new recruit will report to Fort Jackson, Columbia, South Carolina, for basic military training on November 6, 1997. He qualifies for a $10,000 enlistment bonus.

He is the son of Carla G. Dempsey of 126 Hendom Drive, Feeding Hills, and Louis A. Innarelli of 44 Carroll Drive, Westfield.

Jr. Women's Club Urges Residents To Vote On Primary Day

The Town of Agawam is having a primary election on OCTOBER 7th. It's just around the corner.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club urges everyone to get out and vote. Your vote CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

If you are unsure about the candidates, watch the Council and School Committee meetings on our local cable station. Check your local paper for airing time of all publicized meetings.

This message is brought to you by Agawam Junior Women's Club, a member of the GFWC and the GFWC of Massachusetts.

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AGAWAM
LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Liquor Licensing Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, October 14, 1997, at 7:00 p.m., in the Faolin Peirce Room, Agawam Police Headquarters, 681 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA, on the proposal of Sunday openings for Package Stores on the Sundays following Thanksgiving through New Year's Day.

LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSION
Robert Vanderhoof, Chairman
John J. Chriscola, Jr.
Richard A. DiLullo

Published: October 2, 1997



BABY MAXWELL T. RITTER

The Ritter Family Announces Birth Of Son, Maxwell Thomas

Debbie and Thomas Ritter of Wilbraham are proud to announce the birth of a son, Maxwell Thomas Ritter.

Max entered the world on April 1, 1997, weighing in at seven pounds, six ounces, and measuring 21½ inches long.

He was welcomed by paternal grandparents Sandra and Charles Ritter of Feeding Hills, and maternal grandparents Judy Nicoli of Wilbraham and Francis Nicoli of Monson.

The baby's maternal great-grandfather is Frank Nicoli of Springfield.

Fall Rummage Sale Slated Oct. 18th At Mittneague Church

The Board of Stewards of the Mittineague Congregational Church, 1840 Westfield Street, West Springfield will hold a Fall Rummage Sale in the Charles King Fellowship Hall of the church on Saturday, October 18th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

best local news...



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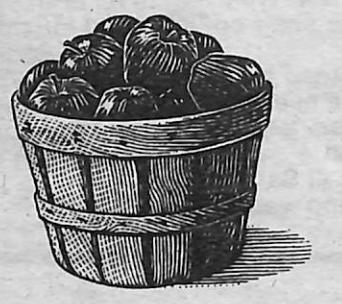
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A BUSHEL OR A PECK

Whether you're canning, freezing, feeding a large family, or just really, really hungry, now is the best time to stock up—just about everything is in plentiful supply: raspberries, green, red, yellow, purple, orange, and frying peppers, ten varieties of hot peppers, five types of eggplant, wax, green, pole, roma, and shell beans, summer squash, twenty varieties of winter squash, butter & sugar, yellow, and white corn, native apples, peaches, and pears, corn stalks, and Bobby's Famous Mums.

E. Cecchi Farms
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"Everything you'd grow if you had 40 acres."

Church News



Reflections...

submitted by
Rev. Peter Monahan
Pastor of the Church of the Apostles.
Suffield, CT
(860) 668-4444 or
(413) 786-8735

"No One Understands Me!"

"No one understands me!" That is the cry of the lonely, perhaps desperate heart in the midst of crisis. We have all heard somebody say that, maybe even to us. Most likely, each of us has either said it, or thought it, ourselves.

Whether a person is as rich as Bill Gates or as poor as a churchmouse, each of us has to endure difficulties during the course of our lives. None of us like it. All of us would avoid it if we could. But we can't. So we want the next best thing. If we can't avoid troubles, at least we don't want to endure them alone. We want somebody to be there with us; somebody who understands us and cares about us. Somebody who is on our side.

Our Creator knows and fully comprehends this fundamental need of our hearts. God knows each of us needs somebody to stand with us. He offers us Himself, through Jesus Christ. **Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared the same things.** One of the things which distinguishes Christianity from religion is the fact that God, in Jesus Christ, became one of us.

Religion is people reaching up to God. Christianity is God reaching down to people. God has been reaching down to people since the beginning of humankind. Some people think that if God exists at all, that perhaps He made the world, set it in motion, and stepped back to see how it would do on its own. But the Bible tells us that is not true. From the first pages of Genesis we see God being involved with people, interacting with them, and caring about their needs.

A good therapist is a good listener. Sometimes all a person needs is for somebody else to listen to them, and understand what's bothering them. God has the time, the energy, and the inclination to care about the things that matter to us. Psalm 8 asks, **"What are human beings that You are mindful of them, or mortals, that You care for them?"** Whatever problem we have, God knows all about it.

Sometimes, when we encounter difficulties, we try to anticipate what the worst case scenario might be. Ultimately, for many of us the worst case scenario is death. It, whatever "it" might be, could kill us. But even in such dire cases, we still don't have to be alone, if we don't want to be. The Bible says that Jesus became one of us, **so that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death.** If we know our final destination is heaven, we can face all our challenges with confidence.

"You don't know what I'm going through, so how can you help me?" That might be true if we're speaking to another person. Somebody who has not suffered the traumas of rejection, or the death of a loved one, or whatever tragedy is going on, cannot possibly fathom the depths of another's pain. But still, we don't have to be alone.

For it is clear that He did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore, He had to become like His brothers and sisters in every respect, so that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Jesus doesn't understand our troubles merely because He read about them in the textbook. **Because He Himself was tested by what He suffered, He is able to help those who are being tested.**

Old-Fashioned Quilting Bee To Be Held At Ag. Congregational

On October 11th, warmth will be sown together for the children of Pine Ridge Reservation. Pine Ridge is located in South Dakota.

In January 1997, the temperature recorded at -80° at Pine Ridge. A place where half the residents are under the age of 16; a place where there is no central heating, one-third have no running water, and another and often-changing one-third have no electricity.

Most homes are substandard with no insulation. Many heat with only a wood-burning stove (55-gallon drum), and families sleep on a dirt floor.

On October 11th at the Agawam Congregational Church, you can help to warm the children of Pine Ridge. It's simple — children deserve warmth, and we are going to give it to them.

Join us at an old-fashioned Quilting Bee. No experience is necessary. On this day we shall cut, tie, and sew quilts.

If you can use a pair of scissors, thread a needle, sew a straight line, or tie a knot, we need you. Donations of cotton fabric, thread, tools, and unfinished and finished quilts are needed.

For additional information, please call Sally M. Loos at 789-4067. Please join us in giving warmth.

Saturday Night Supper At Valley Community To Begin Oct. 11th

The Valley Community Church supper workers are excited!! After a long (and much needed) summer vacation, the kitchen crew at Valley Community Church is ready to get back to what they do best. And that is baking chicken.

The next community-famous **Chicken Supper** will be held on Saturday, October 11th. The menu will be filled with baked chicken, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, two hot vegetables, tossed salad, cranberry sauce, olives, pickles, rolls with butter, along with a beverage.

The dessert table will once again be filled with many different, delectable, enticing, and guaranteed-fattening desserts for you to choose from.

Continuous servings are available from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. The cost is $7 for adults and $3.50 for children. As in the past, reservations are strongly suggested and can be made by calling Shirley at 786-2576 or Dot at 786-6031.

Members of the church suggest you come a little early and look out at the spectacular foliage from "high on the hilltop" at 152 South Westfield St.

Valley Community Issues Weekly Calendar Of Events

The doors of Valley Community Church are open wide on Sunday morning to all who are looking for a church to worship God.

With Pastor Steve (Dennehy) away on a missionary trip to Guatemala, our service this week will be led by Lyle Pearsons. Lyle's message this week will be W.W.J.D. (What Would Jesus Do). He will present many situations that we deal with today, and ask how we feel Jesus would handle these situations.

His message will certainly put a new light on many of our day-to-day, worldwide problems. Because this service is geared for all ages, Children's Church will be incorporated within the adult service. Our Junior Choir will also be participating this Sunday.

The Worship Service is guaranteed to be enlightening and enjoyable for the entire congregation. The service begins at 9:30 a.m.

Coffee and Fellowship are available for everyone immediately following the Worship Service. This week, we will be honoring all our members and friends who are celebrating birthdays during the month of October. We invite all our visitors to join in this time of friendship to get to know church members as well as letting them get to know you.

Church School begins at 11:00 a.m. with classes of all ages. Nursery care is also available throughout the morning.

Members of the Board of Missions will be gathering in Dunn Hall at 4:30 p.m. as they get ready to deliver a hot meal to the Loaves and Fishes in Springfield. This is a monthly commitment from this Board and is eagerly supported by church members and friends.

The monthly Ladies Club, scheduled for Tuesday, October 7th, has been postponed until Tuesday, October 14th. The Ladies Club is open to all the "ladies only" of the church and is a time for them to gather and plan many crafty and fun ideas to be shared throughout the church family.

The meeting will be held at the home of Dot Wells at 7:00 p.m.

Our hilltop will be rocking on Wednesday night as both Junior and Senior Choirs come for rehearsals. The Junior Choir will meet at 6:15 p.m., and the Senior Choir will meet at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday will be a busy day for many of the congregation. Two more of our missionary team departs for a week-long stay in Guatemala. The entire team will return on Saturday, October 18th.

Our kitchen crew will also be busy on Saturday preparing for our **Chicken Supper** on Saturday evening. Detailed information can be found in this paper.

Valley Community Church is an interdenominational church and welcomes anyone who is seeking to establish a relationship with Jesus Christ as their Saviour.

The church is located "high on a hilltop" at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills.

Best local news...

Cecilia P. Calabrese
Attorney at Law



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• Business Law
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• Personal Injury
• Wills & Trusts

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Church News - continued...

Trading Post Opens At First Baptist Church



THE TRADING POST AT THE Agawam First Baptist Church in Agawam opened for the fall season recently. The Trading Post offers used family clothing, some household items, and many other neat things. IN TOP PHOTO - Emma Cross and Bernice Nowill; IN PHOTO BELOW - Iris Johnson, Olive Huhtanen, and Norma Werthamer. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.





AT THE FALL OPENING OF THE TRADING POST AT THE Agawam First Baptist Church were Arline Smith and Elaine McAuley. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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In Southwick, you'll find luxurious, single-family homes on 40,000 sq. ft. wooded homesites. Some of the amenities included are concrete driveways, ceramic tile kitchens and baths, and hardwood floors in dining room. Visit our models Sunday, October 5th, from 2:30 - 4:30.

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Agawam, MA
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St. David's Church
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699 SPRINGFIELD STREET, FEEDING HILLS
786-6133
REVEREND LEN COWAN

Church News - continued...

Agawam United Methodist Warmly Welcomes The Public

It is our pleasure to welcome all those who are in search of God's message for this age at the Agawam United Methodist Church, located at 459 Mill Street, Feeding Hills (across from Agawam High School). We meet at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday.

There is Bible Class at 7:00 p.m. on Fridays.

Cub Scouts meet on Fridays at 7:00 p.m.

God speaks to all those who want to hear the directions for life. He speaks to people at differing levels of development.

The church tries to be one of the vehicles by which the message for daily life and living reaches people.

The story of a boy named Samuel, which is told in the Book of Samuel is an example of God's communication to children and youth.

The story indicates that the message of God can reach the adult through the child. Eli the priest realized his mistake of not correcting his sons when Samuel told him what God said about it.

Today, our children can know good from what is evil, at a very early age, but like Samuel, they must be exposed to and introduced to God.

They must be, at their tender ages, acquainted with God.

Our Sunday School, which meets also at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays, tries to meet the need of helping children to grow up with the ability and strength to choose the right path.

They will know without being hammered into a form of mechanical obedience, what things or practices are healthy or unhealthy to their souls or to their lives.

In other words, they will become acquainted with God's guidelines for daily living.

Because all this becomes more effective during adult life, we urge that the privilege for this early Christian learning be embraced.

St. John's Over 60 Really Heading For NYC On November 29

The date of the St. John's Over 60 Club's trip to New York City was incorrectly given to *The AAN* last week as being on September 29th.

The trip will actually take place on **November 29th.**

There are seven seats available with tickets to Radio City Music Hall. Price for the trip and the show is $90.

If you would like just a one-day trip to New York, there are six seats available on the bus without theatre tickets.

For information, call Lil Doyle at 786-9586.

News And Notes From F.H. Congregational

You are welcome to join with us at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church, which is located at 21 N. Westfield Street in Feeding Hills. The Service of Worship hour begins at 10:00 a.m.

The lectionary readings for Sunday, October 5th, will be Genesis 2:18-24, Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-14; Mark 10:2-16.

Rev. Donaldson's sermon title is "Getting Naked" or "The Model for Human Relations." Worship will include the Service of Holy Communion this week.

Children should attend worship with their parents, leaving at the designated time for Sunday School; nursery care will be provided for the very young.

Next Sunday, our annual all-church offering for Neighbors In Need will be taken. This offering supports UCC programs for Native Americans in the Dakota and Wisconsin area, as well as people in the Appalachian region. Your gift will also help meet the challenge of ending violence in our families and communities.

Other programs sponsored by Neighbors In Need include the issues of poverty, multi-cultural and multi-racial churches, and diversity in our churches. Please plan to give generously to this offering to be taken on Sunday, October 12th, during morning worship.

Bob Broga has been hard at work for several months to make this year's annual CROP Walk a success. The walk to raise funds for hunger relief through Church World Service will take place on Sunday, October 19th.

Registration will take place at the Agawam United Methodist Church, 459 Mill Street (across from Agawam High School), on that date beginning at 1:00 p.m. Most area churches have a contact person in their congregation.

If yours does not, and you would like to participate, please call Bob Broga at 786-7720 for more information. A portion of the money raised will go to the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry.

This time of year is a very busy one at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church. It's very important for all committees and organizations using the church to use the calendar in Griswold Hall.

That's the best way to avoid scheduling conflicts. We're a very active place!

October sermon schedule:

* ***October 5th:*** "Getting Naked" or "The Model for Human Relations." Scripture: Genesis 2:18-24. Theme: Relationships that work.

* ***October 12th:*** "Doing the Right Thing." Accessibility Sunday. Scripture: Psalm 22:1-15. Theme: What if it happened to me? We will dedicate our new ramp and we will baptize Brodie Keene.

* ***October 19th:*** "God, Will You Do Us a Favor?" CROP Walk Sunday. Scripture: Mark 10:35-45. Theme: Our spiritual quest and our reward.

* ***October 26th:*** "Fixing Our Blind Spots." Scripture: Mark 10:46-52. Theme: When Jesus can help us.

On the calendar:

Sunday, October 5th: 10:00 a.m. Service of Holy Communion.

Monday, October 6th: 7:30 p.m., Council.

Tuesday, October 7th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Wednesday, October 8th: Desserts needed for Open Pantry; 7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.

Thursday, October 9th: 7:00 p.m., A.A.

Weekly Calendar From Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, October 5th, is the 20th Sunday after Pentecost. Worship Service continues at 10:30 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main Street, Agawam.

Rev. Fuller's sermon will be "Our Loving Creator," taken from Text: Psalm 8. The third grade class will be presented with their Bibles during the service.

For the next three weeks, parishioners will be ranking items to be placed in the upcoming capital fund drive. The last capital campaign was in the late 1960's.

The congregation wants to renovate and add space for the future growth of the church.

Church School continues at 9:00 a.m. for grades seven through 12, and at 10:30 a.m. for kindergarten through grade six.

The Church School will be using the "Whole People of God." This highly praised program will be used for every age group.

The Open Pantry items for this Sunday are canned veggies.

Items collected each week are donated to the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry.

The Junior High Group will meet this Sunday, October 5th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. This meeting is for all Junior High youth.

Come meet new friends, bring your old friends, and plan activities and events. Call the church office at 786-7111 for more information concerning this group.

A Chicken & Biscuit Supper is planned for Saturday, October 18th. Continuous servings will be from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

The menu includes boneless chicken & biscuits, winter squash, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, rolls, cranberry sauce, apple pie, and beverages.

The cost is $7 for adults, and $4 for children. For reservations, call the church office at 786-7111 or Jerry Hamel at 786-2908.

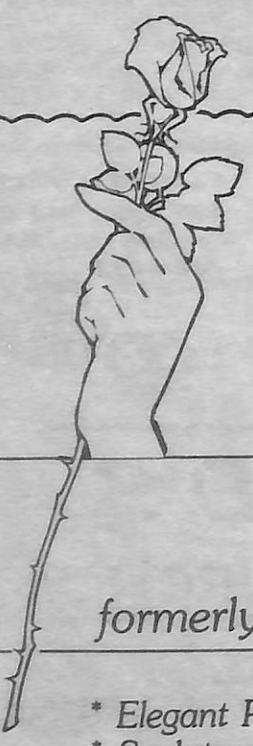
Reservations close on October 17th.

A new member class will begin on Tuesday, October 15th, at 7:45 after the midweek service. Rev. Fuller will lead the three informational sessions.

Topics will include Church history, Bible literacy, spiritual growth, mission projects, and Church polity and programs.

You turn our pages each and every week for all the hometown news...

Best local news...



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- 100% Monsanto Nylon
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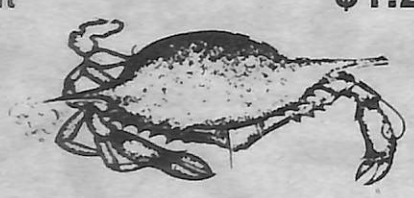
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Boneless Top Round Roast	$1.99 Lb.
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Fresh Ground Round Patties (¼ Lb.)	$2.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Round 5 Lbs. Or More	$2.49 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	$1.99 Lb.
T-Bone Steak	$3.89 Lb.
Porterhouse Steak	$3.99 Lb.
Fresh Ground Chuck 5 Lbs. Or More	$1.69 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	$1.49 Lb.
Frozen Hamburg Patties (5 Lb. Box - 25 Patties)	$8.99
Boneless Center Cut Pork Roast	$2.99 Lb.
Boneless Center Cut Pork Cutlets	$3.49 Lb.
Frozen Ground Turkey	89¢ Lb.
Grade "A" Chicken Breast Whole	$1.09 Lb.
Split	$1.29 Lb.



SEAFOOD

Frozen Swordfish Steaks	$3.99 Lb.
Cooked Shrimp (31-40 Count)	$8.95

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Everday Low Price...
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88¢ A Bag

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Scented Votive Candles
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Sunday Only— October 5th

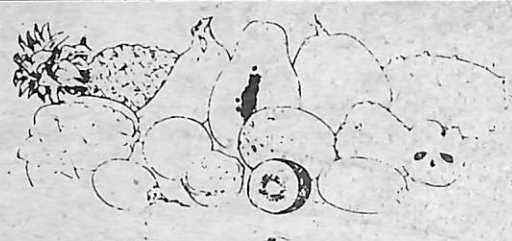
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$6.99 (5 Lb. Box)



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Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	$2.89 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	$1.19 Lb.
Russer Canadian Maple Ham	$2.99 Lb.
Cooper Sharp Cheese	$2.99 Lb.
Thumann's Gourmet Turkey Breast	$4.99 Lb.
Hormel Genoa Salami	$2.99 Lb.
Store Made Rare Roast Beef	$4.99 Lb.
Fresh Seafood Salad	$3.99 Lb.



PRODUCE

Bananas	39¢ Lb.
McIntosh & Cortland Apples (3 Lb. Bag)	$1.19
Florida Pink Grapefruit	3 For 89¢
Fresh Rosebud Carrots (1 Lb. Bag)	39¢
Native Butternut & Acorn Squash	25¢ Lb.
Idaho Potatoes (5 Lbs. Bag)	$1.39
Fresh Romaine Lettuce	69¢ Hd.



DAIRY

Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	$2.19
Hood Half & Half Cream (Quart)	99¢
Sweet Life 2% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	$2.19

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Jumbo Grinders (All Varieties)
$3.50
With Free 12 Oz. Can Of Soda

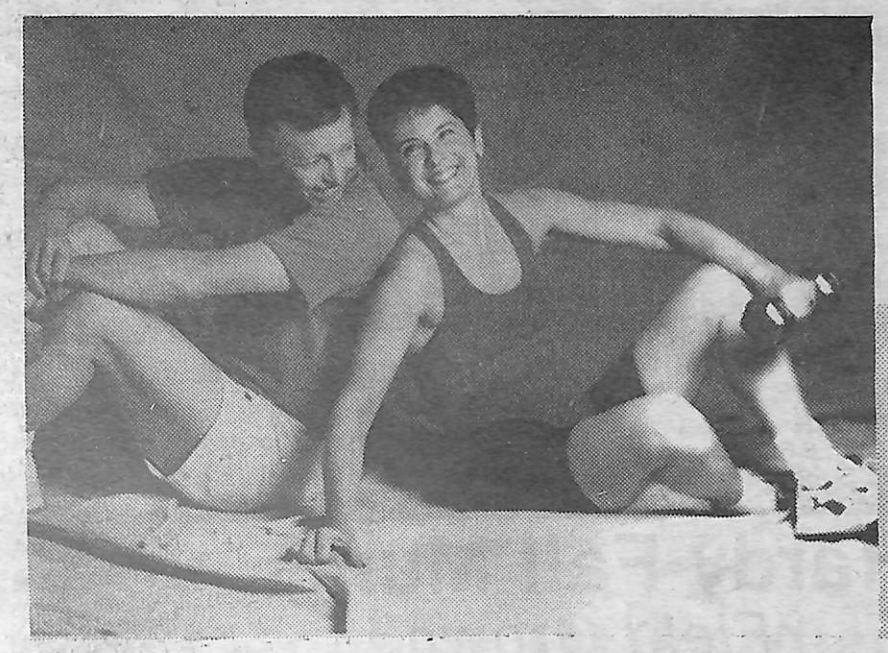
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YOUR FREE KIT INCLUDES:

- *A Free Ektelon Gym Bag ($25 value)*
- *A Free Month Membership for a Friend ($49 value)*
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Church News - continued...

Communion Sunday To Be Celebrated At First Baptist Church

The ordinance of holy communion will be celebrated this Sunday morning, October 5th, at the 9:30 a.m. service of worship at First Baptist Church.

Pastor Richard Barnes will speak on "The Faithful Servant," using Hebrews 5 as his scriptural text. Children's Church (at 10:00 a.m.) follows the Children's Story, when children leave the worship service at this time.

Coffee and conversation follow morning worship in Davis Hall, then classes for all ages convene. Nursery care is always available.

The American Baptist Churches of Pioneer Valley will hold their fall meeting at the Alden Baptist Church, 649 State Street, Springfield, on Sunday also.

Registration is at 4:00 p.m. The program is at 4:30 p.m., with dinner following at 5:00 p.m.

The program will be presented by Dr. Linda Spoolstra.

On our calendar this week:

Monday, October 6th: 7:00 p.m., Newly-formed Men's Group meets at the home of Doug Grabowski; 7:00 p.m., Sunshine Circle; 7:00 p.m., Sister-to-Sister Group (Betty Murphy); 7:30 p.m., Amicitia Circle - Lockhart Parlor.

Tuesday, October 7th: 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:00 p.m., Missions Committee; 7:00 p.m., Junior Youth Group.

Wednesday, October 8th: 7:15 a.m., MidWeek Prayer Time; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Trading Post Open; 7:30 p.m., Church Committee.

Thursday, October 9th: 10:00 a.m., Bell Ringers Rehearsal; 1:15 p.m., EZ Does It Aerobics Class; 7:30 p.m., Choir Rehearsal.

Friday, October 10th: Senior Youth Retreat.

The Missions Committee is requesting that food for the Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets be collected in October this year. To help you decide what you want to give, they suggest:

* ***October 5th*** - Canned fruit, vegetables, and cranberry sauce.

* ***October 12th*** - Canned soups, meats, and tunafish.

* ***October 19th*** - Packaged foods, pasta, cake mixes, pie fillings, beans, stuffing, and cookies.

* ***October 26th*** - Fruit juices, coffee, and powdered milk.

Our church has been invited to the First Park Memorial Baptist Church in Springfield on Wednesday, October 8th, to hear missionaries Jeff and Annie Dieselberg.

See our bulletin board for more information.

"Servants With Song" At Harvest Assembly

Bobby & Sheryl Sullivan, 'Servants with a Song,' will be at the Harvest Assembly of God Church on Sunday, October 5th, at 6:00 p.m.

This is a dynamic ministry of special music along with a powerful Gospel message. Their music and ministry will appeal to young and old alike. Based out of Ontario, Canada, they have traveled extensively across Canada and the United States bringing a message of hope, healing, and revival to the churches and inner cities of our land. Infant care will be provided for this service.

On Friday, October 10th at 7:30 p.m., there will be a special Youth Emphasis Rally at the church that is open to all. It will feature the music and dramatic ministry of the ZION COURIERS from Zion Bible Institute in Barrington, RI.

Both of these events are free, but special love offerings will be received for these ministries. The church is located at 121 Union Street in West Springfield (near the I.H.O.P. restaurant).

For more information, you may call the church at 739-1234.

Chicken Biscuit Dinner At Ag. Congregational

The Agawam Congregational Church will be holding a Chicken and Biscuit Dinner on Saturday, October 18th from 5:30-7:00 p.m.

The dinner includes chicken and biscuits, winter squash, mashed potatoes, cole slaw, rolls and butter, and apple pie.

The cost is $7 for adults and $4 for children.

The dinner will be held at the church located at 745 Main Street. Reservations are recommended. A few walk-ins will be accepted.

Reservations can be made by calling the church office at 786-7111 or Jerry Hamel at 786-2908 (before noon on Friday, October 17th).

Chalk Artist To Be Sunday Guest At Ag. Church Of Bible

On Sunday, October 5th, at 10:00 a.m., at the Agawam Church of the Bible, guest chalk artist Everett Britton will use chalk, special lighting, and music as he creates a large picture that graphically displays a truth from the Bible.

His work will be fascinating for adults and children alike, and the church wants to extend a welcome to the community.

The presentation will be followed by a brief coffee hour for teens and adults, while younger children enjoy "Kid's Praise" time. Childcare is provided for infants during all services.

The church meets each Sunday morning at the Junior High School on Springfield Street, across from the Stop & Shop supermarket. Please call Roger at 789-2904 for more details.

Catholic Women's Club To Host A Living Rosary

The Catholic Women's Club of St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main Street, Agawam, will hold a Living Rosary meeting on Monday, October 13th, at 8:00 p.m.

The Living Rosary will consist of club members praying the rosary. As each rosary bead is prayed, a light will go on (red for Our Father, and blue for the Hail Mary).

Organist Charles Maniscalchi will provide the music for the songs dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Chairwoman Alice Buell and club president Betsy Ciempa invite all members to bring a friend. The hospitality chairwoman for the evening is Elaine Smith.



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Spotlight On Business



OVER AT THE SILK BOUQUET on Walnut Street Extension, former Agawam resident Betty Blascak is promoting her "Leather By Betty" apparel. She is pictured with owners and operators Walter Wiater and Laura Santerre. Walter is wearing a western style deerskin jacket. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



FORMER AGAWAM RESIDENT BETTY BLASCAK DENEHY, owner and operator of "Leather By Betty," is pictured with Laura Santerre, owner of The Silk Bouquet at 379 Walnut Street Extension, Agawam. Betty is currently promoting some of her homespun leather clothing at the store. Laura is wearing a Native American Indian wedding dress (Sioux Indian style). Betty is wearing a western deerskin jacket and deerskin skirt. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Daughter Of Former Agawam Dairy Farmer Brings Nationally Recognized Leather Goods To Town

The daughter of one of Agawam's most prominent dairy farmers who is now a nationally-known leathercrafter has returned to her hometown to promote some of her homespun leather products at a local store.

Betty Blascak Denehy, owner and operator of "Leather By Betty" out of Tampa, Florida, has connected with "The Silk Bouquet" at 379 Walnut Street Extension to sell and exhibit some of her custom leather apparel.

She Was A Farmgirl

The 1960 Agawam High graduate is the daughter of former Agawam dairy farmers Philip & Mary Blascak of Shoemaker Lane. Betty is back in Agawam for her annual visit with her mother. While most of the 125-acre Blascak farm has been sold, Mary Blascak continues to reside in the family home of 52 years.

The property ceased being a productive farm 10 years ago when Betty's father, Philip, passed away.

Betty began her "Leather By Betty" business 20 years ago out of her West Springfield home after her late husband became ill. "I had to do something for employment out of necessity," said Betty. "I always had an affinity for leather so I just began to make leather clothes from my home and sold them."

Soon after her husband died, Betty packed her bags with her two children, Michael and Denise, and relocated to Florida. From there, "Leather By Betty" became established in that region before gaining a national reputation as the years passed.

Betty's custom leather apparel is of the Native American Indian and Western style. She specializes in the 1840's Native American era which she calls "The Fur Trade Period." Her material is buckskin leather and from her Tampa home (or wherever she may be traveling), she uses a glover's needle, heavy thread, a good pair of sheers, and deerskin hides to create her apparel.

The products include Native American and Western style dresses, shirts, halter tops, jackets, moccasins, sweaters, belts, baby booties, white wedding dresses (which are in constant demand), deerskin roses, pocket books, and jewelry.

Takes Custom Orders Only

Betty only creates from custom orders. She built her business from traveling to various art shows around the country (but no longer has time for these) and at the popular Native American Period reenactments. At these, Betty will supply the leather clothing to some of the individuals who spend a week living exactly as the Native American Indians and the fur traders did back in the 1840's.

Betty said these events are similar to the popular Civil War period reenactments which may be familiar to residents in Western Mass. She will attend 10 or more of these Native American Indian reenactments each year.

Her travels and reputation secured her a small role in the movie *"Sealed With A Kiss"* with Richie Havens a few years ago (he opened Woodstock back in 1969). She has done custom work for movie actress Jane Powell and for actor Burt Reynolds.

She has many Native American Indian friends, including James Billie, chief of the Seminole Nation in Florida; Mitchell Cypress, president of the Seminole Nation; and Hayward Big Day, a medicine man for the Crow Nation in Pryor, Montana.

Betty enjoys returning to her Agawam roots each summer to visit with her mother and to renew some old acquaintances. She fondly remembers her schoolgirl days working on the family dairy farm. She was the first girl in the local chapter of The Future Farmers of America and said current Agawam Town Councilor David Skolnick, a retired faculty member from Agawam High School, was her instructor. She was an active member in the local 4H Club until age 19, and exhibited the family's dairy cows at local fairs, including THE BIG E, on a regular basis.

"I think my first show was showing off our chickens at the Agawam Lions Club Fair back in the 1950's," she laughed.

Betty will be in Agawam until October 15th, and some of her leather products are currently on display at "The Silk Bouquet." She can be reached there by calling 786-5878.

PLEASE REMEMBER that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event. Jack can be reached at 789-0053.



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Spotlight On Business - continued...

Legal Memo

by
Alan J. Ferrigno, Esq.
546 Springfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-9454



Personal Injury

The Standard Of Care In Warranty Of Habitability Cases

Massachusetts law provides an implied warranty of habitability for every lease of residential property. The warranty states that the premises are fit for human habitation, which at a minimum requires that they conform to the state sanitary and building codes.

A tenant may recover damages for personal injuries caused by a breach of the warranty. However, the standard of care owed by the landlord to the tenant under this cause of action is unsettled.

Historical Background

Under old Massachusetts law, a landlord was not required to maintain property leased to a tenant and had no duty to ensure that the premises were fit for human habitation at the inception of the tenancy or thereafter. Rather, the tenant took the premises as he found them and there was no obligation on the landlord to make repairs. *Caveat emptor* ruled.

The reason for the law was relatively simple. It had been formulated when leases most often involved the transfer of real estate for farming and the land itself was the valuable asset at issue. The lessee could not fairly complain that the land had to be maintained by the lessor because the purpose of the lease was to allow the lessee to work it.

As times changed, however, more leases involved the rental of dwellings rather than farms. The concern to the tenant was more that the dwelling was in livable condition than that the premises were capable of growing crops. Exceptions to the old rule then began to emerge.

Today, in a rental of any premises for dwelling purposes, under a written or oral lease, for a specific time or at will, there is an implied warranty that the premises are fit for human occupation. This means that at the inception of the rental there are no latent or patent defects in facilities vital to the use of the premises for residential purposes and that these essential facilities will remain during the entire term in a condition which makes the property livable. This is called the *Implied Warranty* of habitability.

A new rule was required because we live in an urban industrial society where the essential objective of the leasing transaction is to provide a dwelling suitable for habitation.

Recently, the Supreme Judicial Court extended the warranty of habitability to long-term leases in personal injury cases; however, it did not articulate a standard of care for that warranty. The tenant in that case sued his landlord for personal injuries he sustained when he fell through a porch railing on the rented premises.

The Court stated: Extension of the warranty to the ordinary residential tenancy at will, logically carries with it liability for personal injuries caused by a breach. We now find in the rental of a dwelling unit, without regard to length of term or presence or absence of furniture, an implied agreement by the landlord that the rented unit complies with the minimum standards prescribed by building and sanitary codes and that he will do whatever those codes require for compliance during the term of the renting.

Consequently, today there is in cases of the rental of residential property an implied warranty of habitability, breach of which can cause liability of a landlord for personal injuries suffered by a tenant.

Riverside Recognizes Maintenance Workers





IN PHOTO LEFT, Michael Fleury (left) is being congratulated by Richard Neis, director of Maintenance and New Construction at Riverside Park, for his outstanding performance in 1996. This award is given once a year to one individual whose outstanding contribution and performance contribute to the overall success of the park. IN PHOTO ABOVE, Neis congratulates the entire maintenance staff for their outstanding performance from March through August of 1997. He said the team approach to dealing with many of the park's new challenges keyed the entire effort. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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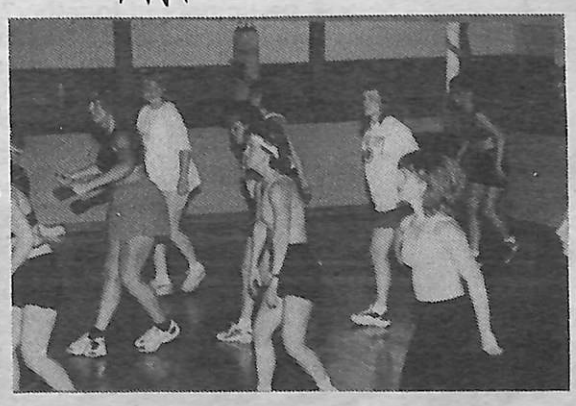
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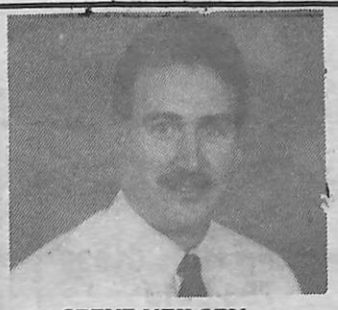
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Tips For Fire Safety. During National Fire Prevention Week, Oct. 5-11, share Be Fire Safe! these fire safety tips with your family.

Play It Safe. Don't play with fire, at any age. Matches and lighters are not toys. Always be careful around burning candles or cigarettes.



Learn Your Numbers. Emergency numbers are only for real emergencies. If a fire breaks out, call 9-1-1 as soon as possible, after you're safely outside of your home. Be ready to give your name, address and phone number.



Watch Out, Hot Stuff. Kids, don't cook without an adult. Never grab on to handles of pots or pans - they may be very hot!



It's Shocking. Never put too many electrical plugs into outlets or extension cords. Don't ever touch a cord that looks frayed or cracked. Have it replaced.



Know Where To Go. Plan and practice an escape route with your family. Find two ways to exit from each room. Agree on a safe meeting place, away from your home. Stay calm.


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For Your Health

Brightside Offers Free Depression Screenings On Oct. 9th

Thursday, October 9th, is "National Depression Screening Day," and Brightside for Families and Children will be one of almost 3,000 sites across the country to offer free screenings.

Brightside clinicians will conduct the screenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Brightside, 2112 Riverside Street, West Springfield. No appointments are necessary.

Participants will have the opportunity to learn about the signs and symptoms of depression, to complete an anonymous written screening test, and to discuss the results with a mental health professional. Last year, more than 85,000 people attended screenings at 2,800 sites nationwide.

"Depression strikes more than 17 million Americans each year," said Elizabeth Bertuch, R.N., C.N.S, Brightside Clinical Nurse Specialist. "However, fewer than half of them actually seek treament, even though it is estimated that 80 percent of those affected can be helped by such treatment."

According to Bertuch, symptoms of depression include feelings of hopelessness, worthlessness, restlessness, and irritability, as well as changes in sleep and appetite, loss of energy, and thoughts of death or suicide.

Depression is more than a case of the blues; it is an illness, and effective treatments are available. Call (413) 827-4389 for more information.

Brightside for Families and Children is a nonprofit behavioral and social science organization, dedicated to strengthening and supporting families and children.

Brightside is part of Sisters of Providence Behavioral HealthCare, offering Western Massachusetts' most comprehensive range of behavioral health services, including inpatient psychiatric services; acute, residential, and outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment; and complete adoption services.

Agawam Senior Ctr. To Host "Health Expo" On Oct. 28th

The Agawam Senior Center, located at 68 Meadowbrook Manor, will be hosting a "Health Expo" on Tuesday, October 28, 1997, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The admission is free, and the Expo will be offering blood pressure screenings, cholesterol screenings, vision and hearing exams, and much, much more.

Best local news...

Check our classified

Agawam Counseling Center

30 Southwick St.
Box 84
Feeding Hills 01030
786-6410

We Have A Variety Of Support Groups

We are all social animals. Beginning with the first relationship we have with our mothers, our life and experiences are shaped by the people we come to know and love (or hate!) along our journey. Parents, teachers, friends, and family members all influence us in one way or another.

Each of us is shaped in different ways by our experiences, and often the inevitable painful experiences in relationships can make us hesitant to try again. Whether we are feeling lonely, sad, happy, or angry, whether we lack self-esteem or feel pride in our accomplishments, close relationships with others are an important ingredient for achieving satisfaction in our lives.

For those of us struggling with special problems, knowing we are not alone can go a long way toward easing our burden. The AGAWAM COUNSELING CENTER is offering a variety of groups this fall for those who would like to share their experiences in a confidential, safe environment.

The following groups will be beginning in October:

After School Group for Girls 11-13 — *An activity-based group aimed at increasing self-esteem and improving social skills.*

Children and Divorce — *Age-based support groups for kids coping with separation and divorce.*

Grandparents as Parents — *Support group for grandparents raising their grandchildren.*

Women's Support Group — *For women 25 and over to talk about relationships.*

The following groups will be formed based on interest:

Parenting Your Teenager — *How to survive these difficult years with your sense of humor intact!*

Single Parent Support Group — *You don't have to do it alone!*

Remembrance Group for Seniors — *Share your memories of life before TV!*

The AGAWAM COUNSELING CENTER is located at 30 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills. The Center accepts most insurances and has a sliding scale fee for those without insurance.

Call the Center today at **786-6410** for more information or to make an appointment for a confidential screening interview.



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Football-Related Injuries

Question: My son insists on playing football, and I'm concerned about injuries to his body, especially his back and neck. What is your opinion of the sport?

Answer: Football is one of the roughest, toughest sports and it attracts thousands of youngsters each fall. Unfortunately, the thrills it generates for spectators and glory for the players are often accompanied by injuries with long-lasting consequences.

Recently, a high school football game resulted in a traumatic compression to the neck of one of Agawam High's players, causing an immediate loss of memory and a bad headache afterward. Future symptoms are a possibility.

An injury on the football field is very often the same type as that received in an auto crash. The body is frequently struck or badly jarred.

Joints are often pushed beyond their limits. Vertebrae in the neck or back can be misaligned, or sometimes fractured.

As a chiropractic physician, the emphasis of my concern is on the spinal column. If one or more of the spinal vertebrae are damaged or misaligned, it can mean pressure on the nerves inside the spine and impair muscle and organ function. It can cause permanent spinal curvature, which shows up with startling clarity on x-rays of these athletes.

While football is a fine builder of character and body, no football injury should be forgotten until after a competent consultation and examination.

Football is part of an American tradition in education, and it is certainly here to stay. But there is always a price for good things ... and the price of football is occasional injury to the players.

The **SCHLAFFER CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE, 192 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam,** emphasizes the health of Agawam's athletes and is well-equipped to examine and treat those who have been injured. Call **789-1369.**

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7 RM R/R, vinyl sided, gar & inground pool	$139,900
Privacy Plus w/this 7 Rm Col, 2½ Baths, 2 car gar on ½ acre	$148,300
New Duplex - 3 BR, 1½ Baths each side. Rare Find	$149,900
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Overs'd 2,000 S.F. R/R on ½ acre. 7 Rm, 3 Baths	$152,000
Newer 8 Rm Col., 2½ Bath, 4-5 BR, Fam Rm & 2 car gar	$179,900
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For Your Health - continued...

Women's Fitness Fair At Healthy Habits

This Saturday, October 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Healthy Habits, located at 65 Springfield Street, Agawam, will be hosting a "Women's Health and Fitness Fair" and "Open House."

The schedule of events goes as follows:

* 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.: Health/Fitness Information Booths.
* 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.: Body Fat Testing.
* 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.: Blood Pressure Screening.
* 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon: Flexibility Testing.
* 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.: Self-Defense Demonstration by Valley Women's Martial Arts.
* 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.: Smoking Cessation Session.

The following classes will also be offered:

* 9:30 to 10:15 a.m.: Interval Step.
* 10:00 to 10:45 a.m.: Aquatic Fitness.
* 10:15 to 11:00 a.m.: Sports Moves.
* 11:00 to 11:45 a.m.: Aquatic Fitness.
* 12:00 noon to 12:45 p.m.: Low Impact.
* 12:45 to 1:15 p.m.: Stretch and Flex.
* 1:30 to 2:15 p.m.: PACE Circuit Training.

Furthermore, there will also be information on breast self-exams, urinary incontinence, proper nutrition, and more!

For more information, call (413) 789-1515.

Ag. Health Dept. Plans Flu Clinics

The Agawam Health Department will be holding flu clinics on the following dates:

October 8th: Meadowbrook Manor, 66 Meadowbrook Manor, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.; October 14th; Pheasant Hill, 25 Pheasant Hill Dr., 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.; October 28th, Danahy School House, 51 Maple St., 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

Who should get the flu shot? Individuals aged 65 and older; individuals with chronic asthma or other lung diseases; individuals with weakened immune systems.

If you have any questions, contact the Health Department at (413) 786-0400, ext. 207.

Fitness Tips...

Conditioning In The Cold

by Garen Stoehr
Fitness Director, Fitness First

We have entered October and are well on our way to November. Nice refreshing spurts of Indian summer are relinquishing as we push toward the frigid, dark days of winter.

Exercising in the outdoors becomes less enticing for some while an exciting challenge for others. Those outdoor enthusiasts must have one question in mind; how does one prevent the body from losing excessive heat?

Heat loss is controlled in two ways; insulation and environmental factors. Although many people work toward a lean physique, those with a higher percentage of body fat are less likely to lose heat. As you choose clothing, you must keep in mind material that traps air and wicks perspiration away from the body. By wearing layers, one will be able to control the amount of insulation that is needed for a particular temperature.

It is most important to keep the head, hands, and feet warm and protected. In the lower temperatures, blood is shunted away from the extremities in order to warm the internal organs of the torso. It is important to know that blood flow will not return to the feet until the temperature of the torso is normal or slightly above normal core temperature. So, in order to keep the feet warm, you must keep the entire body warm.

Finally, you must check the weather before deciding to exercise outdoors. Data from the National Safety Council suggests that danger exists for individuals with exposed skin, when the wind chill factor exceeds -20° Fahrenheit. It is also recommended to warm the air being inhaled either by a scarf or a neoprene mask.

Exercising in the colder months requires a great deal of preparation. It is beneficial to consult your outdoor recreational retailers or manuals that cater to your particular activity.



Chiropractic Care by Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic Physician
Hampden County Chiropractic
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Travelling Woes...

Recently, I travelled to Colorado to attend a wedding. The trip consisted of a two-hour car trip to Boston, approximately five to six hours of flying time, and then a six-hour car trip to our destination in Telluride.

By the time we arrived, my back (needless to say) was killing me. Many of us are not used to sitting for extended periods of time. With the body in the seated position, the spine is constantly being compressed.

The vertebrae or individual bones are compressing the discs, or the shock absorbers between the bones. The fluid from the discs is forced out, causing dehydration of the disc, which results in stiffness and achiness.

The lack of movement or motion adds to the lack of fluid being pumped into the disc. This can result in pain, stiffness, and achiness. The solution is motion — moving the spine to start pumping the fluid back in.

If you are travelling, here are a few suggestions to help decrease discomfort:

** Drink plenty of water.*
** Stretch really good before leaving.*
** Try to take a brisk walk or get exercise prior to leaving.*
** If in the car, stop periodically to stretch or walk. The key is not just to stand up and stretch, because with standing the joints are still being compressed. Walking helps move the joints.*
** Stretch and walk after arrival.*
** Sometimes a hot bath or shower helps decrease muscle achiness or tightness.*
** Have your partner massage your back.*
** See your chiropractor when you get home!*

best local news

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Arts

Few Openings At STAGE Theatre Camp For Fall Session

STAGE has announced that there are a few openings left for its fall theatre camp, "House of Shadows." The popular children's theatre group is running the after-school program from 3:30 to 5:30 on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, with production dates scheduled for November 14th, 15th, and 16th.

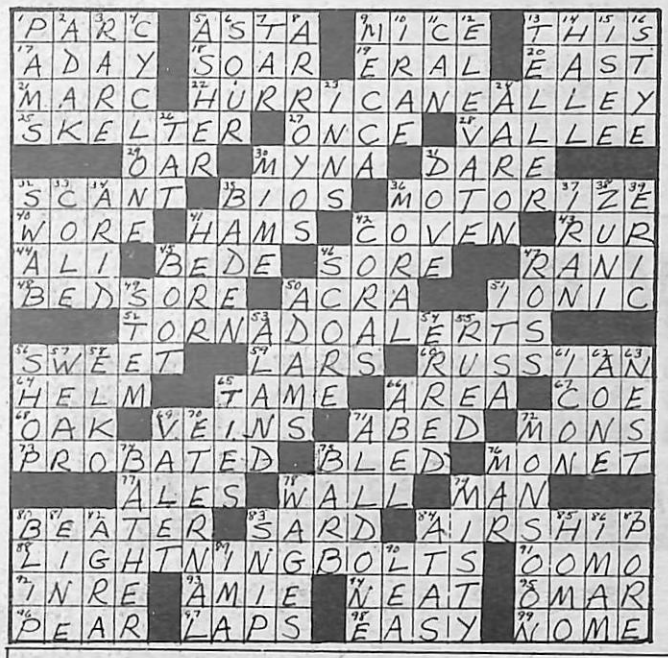
A total of 190 young people participated in STAGE's summer camps, and co-producers Margie Secora and Lyle Pearsons anticipate another banner year as they head into their 10th season.

"House of Shadows" is a tale of a brother and sister forced into a poor man's labor house where mysterious things happen to children who work there. Written by playwright Lyle Pearsons (who helped pen adaptations of "Dracula" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" for the Suffield Players), "House of Shadows" promises all the elements that make for good, scary fun.

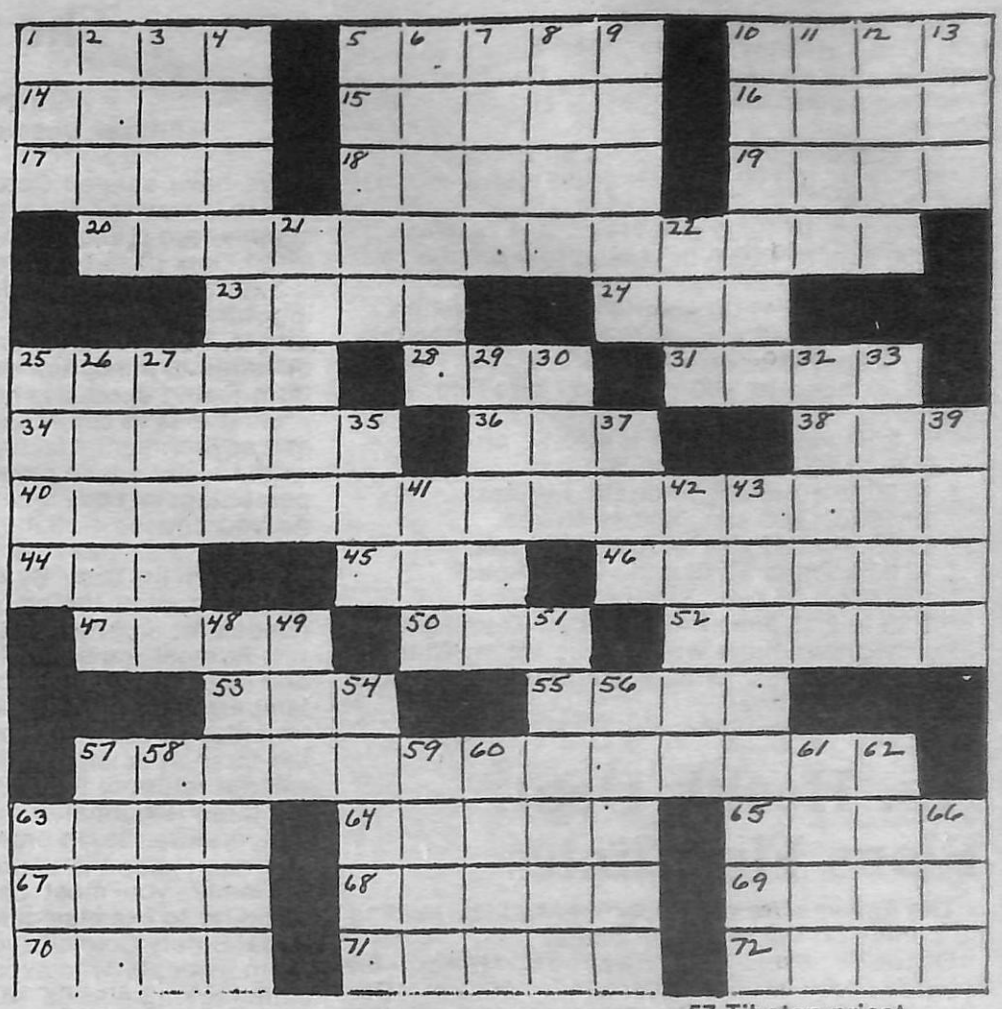
Students will participate in all aspects of the production from publicity to set painting, as well as rehearsing for their roles in the play.

For applications or more information, call The Red Door Theatre at (413) 789-2026. Camps and productions are held at the theatre, which is located at 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA (next to the Valley Community Church on the hill).

Last Week's Solution...



MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni



ACROSS
1 "Thanks ——"
5 Major Hoople expletives
10 Bit of derring do
14 1997 PGA champ
15 Marc Antony
16 Composer Edouard
17 Celt
18 Omni for one
19 Algerian port
20 Informal dress
23 Actress Verdon
24 Female saint
25 Frequent John Wayne co-star
28 Actress Rita
31 Mine car
34 Deli buy
36 One of the Stooges
38 Indian mulberry
40 Shameful accusation
44 UFO pilots
45 Thing, at law
46 Claws
47 Ms. Kett
50 Western state
52 Arm bones
53 Towel word
55 Estimates (abbr.)
57 Ahead of all others
63 Mountain pool
64 Actor Nick
65 Notable time periods
67 Go crazy (with run)
68 Avarice
69 Broadway hit indicator
70 Fresh water fish
71 "What ——"
72 Actress Veronica

DOWN
1 X plus y equals xy (abbr.)
2 Van's content
3 Through
4 Message form
5 Expunge
6 Butch of hockey
7 Prayer ending
8 Darn relative
9 Hangups
10 "— Drum Song"
11 Merit
12 Word of woe
13 "Like a — of bricks"
21 Marsh
22 Melvin of baseball
25 Bone (prefix)
26 "Luck of the Roaring Camp" author
27 "—— For Life"
29 Divert
30 Swabs implement
32 Hank of home run fame
33 "— Carta"
35 Noun-forming suffix
37 Et al relative
39 "More or —"
41 Lair
42 "Terre —"
43 "—— That Ends Well"
48 Shows appreciation
49 Assist
51 Davis and Midler
54 "—— Song of Sixpence"
56 Molts
57 Tibetan priest
58 God of love
59 Football's Van Brocklin
60 Singing club
61 Lakme's bell song
62 American to a Brit
63 Bar bill
66 Observe

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Gary Trudeau To Open 1997-1998 Public Forum Series In Springfield

Garry Trudeau, Pulitzer Prize-winning artist and cartoonist, will lead off the 62nd season of The Springfield Public Forums on Wednesday, October 8th, at 7:30 p.m. in Symphony Hall in downtown Springfield. The talk is open to all free of charge.

Trudeau's lecture, "What A Long, Strange Trip It's Been," is co-sponsored by the *Union-News* and *Sunday Republican,* which both carry "Doonsbury." Publisher David Starr will chair the event.

Trudeau, who rarely makes public appearances, launched his comic strip, "Doonsbury," in 1970. It now runs in nearly 700 newspapers in the United States and abroad with an estimated readership of 80 million. He is the first comic strip artist to win a Pulitzer for editorial cartooning. His work has been collected in more than 50 hardcover, trade, and mass paperback editions, which together have sold over seven million copies worldwide.

Garry Trudeau was raised in Saranac, New York, and attended Yale University, where he received both his BA and MFA degrees. In 1977, following the success of "Doonsbury" and in conjunction with John and Faith Hubley, he wrote and co-directed his animated film, "A Doonsbury Special," for NBC-TV. It was nominated for an Academy Award and received the Special Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival.

In 1983, collaborating with composer Elizabeth Swados, he wrote the book and lyrics for the Broadway musical "Doonsbury," for which he received two Drama Desk Award nominations. In 1984, the team co-produced "Rap Master Ronnie," a satirical review about Ronald Reagan.

Trudeau has had nine gallery exhibitions of his work. He has contributed articles to many publications and has received honorary degrees from Yale, Colgate, Williams, Duke and 15 other universities. He lives in New York City and Connecticut with his wife, Jane Pauley, and their three children.

Three diverse lectures will round out this season of Forums:

DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN, writer and historian on Thursday, October 16th, co-sponsored by Tambrands Inc.

ROBERT D. BALLARD, oceanographer and discoverer of the wreck of the *Titanic,* Wednesday, October 22nd, co-sponsored by Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co.

DR. BERNIE SIEGEL, former Yale surgeon, best-selling author, and advocate of holistic medicine, Tuesday, November 4th, co-sponsored by Bay State Medical Center.

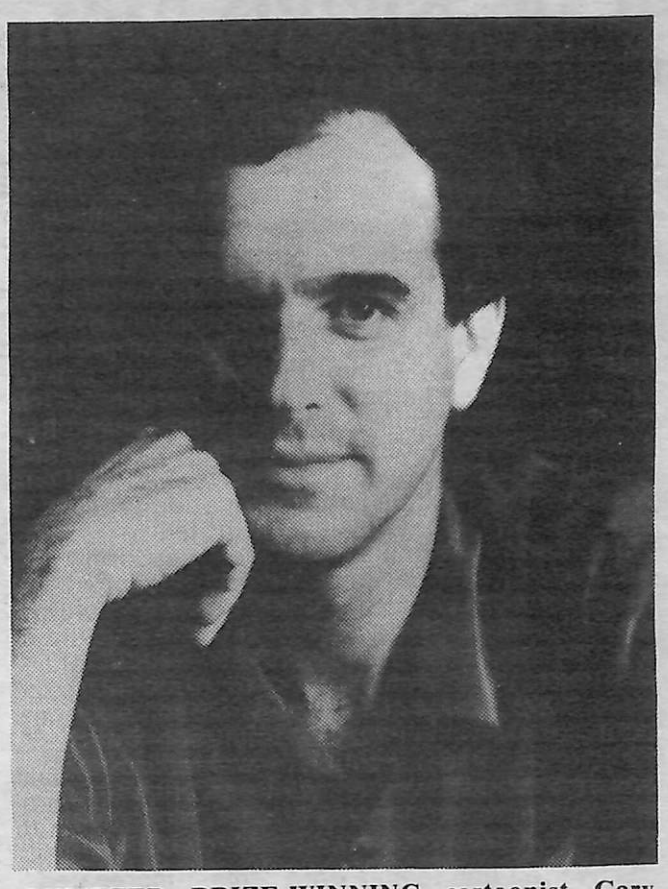
Doris Kearns Goodwin's October 16th appearance will highlight her work as a historian. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Colby College with a Ph.D. in Government from Harvard, she taught there for 10 years as a Professor of Government.

Her most recent book, "No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front During World War II," was awarded the 1995 Pulitzer Prize in History. Her other major works, "The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys" (1987) and "Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream" (1976), were best-sellers.

She is seen frequently on Public Television's "Newshour with Jim Lehrer" and served as a consultant for some of its major documentaries, including Ken Burns' "The History of Baseball."

Oceanographer **Robert D. Ballard** returns to the Forums where, in 1987, he presented an illustrated talk on his discovery of the sunken *Titanic.* He is recognized for his many television programs, including those for the BBC, the National Science Foundation, Public Television, and six National Geographic specials.

In addition to the *Titanic,* he participated in the discovery of the battleship *Bismark,* as well as the exploration of the luxury liner *Lusitania* and the hospital ship *Britanicca.*



PULITZER PRIZE-WINNING cartoonist Gary Trudeau will be in Springfield on Wednesday, October 8th.

Ballard is an Emeritus Scientist in the Department of Applied Ocean Physics and Engineering at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. He is also president of the Institute for Exploration at the Mystic Connecticut Aquarium.

Bernie Siegel graduated from Colgate University and Cornell University Medical College with memberships in two scholastic honor societies, Phi Beta Kappa and Alpha Omega Alpha. His training in general and pediatric surgery took place at Yale New Haven Hospital and the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Disillusioned with his approach to surgery, where he looked upon his patients as machines he had to repair, he desired a closer approach to the sick. In 1978, he started Exceptional Cancer Patients, a non-profit support group for people with cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

Its goal is patient empowerment and the choice to live fully and die in peace. He maintains that recovery often can be aided by addressing the psychological problems behind the illness.

Siegel is the author of three best-sellers: "Love, Medicine and Miracles"; "Peace, Love and Healing"; and "How to Live Between Office Visits: A Guide to Life, Love and Health."

The Springfield Public Forum Series is the only organization remaining in the country that presents a series of distinguished celebrity lecturers at no cost whatsoever to the general public.

This unique format is made possible by co-sponsorships with educational and corporate institutions, program advertising, and voluntary memberships. These start at $10 and entitle the member to meet the speakers at receptions in the Mahogany Room of Symphony Hall.

While ample parking will be available to all in the I-91 garage, those with memberships of $50 and above will be given passes for parking at no charge. They will also be invited to attend dinners with the speakers on a cost basis.

All memberships are tax-deductible and may be obtained by writing to The Springfield Public Forum Series at 52 Smithfield Court, Springfield, MA 01108.

Stage III To Present Weekend Of Nostalgic Musical Entertainment

Stage III will present "MEMORIES IN BITS AND PIECES" on Friday, October 3rd, & Saturday, October 4th, at THE RED DOOR THEATRE, 152 South Westfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA. This evening will be presented cabaret style with candlelit tables. The audience members may bring in their own picnic basket of goodies or may purchase from the refreshment bar. This a non-alcohol event.

"MEMORIES IN BITS AND PIECES" will bring you back to the days of youth and fun in the sun with songs such as "Rock Around the Clock," "My Boyfriend's Back," and "Sunny." It will take you through the 60's and the peace movement with nostalgic hits such as "Blowin' In the Wind" and "Where Have All the Flowers Gone?", and let you relive the heartache or happiness of love with songs such as "Tea for Two" and "Maybe This Time."

This evening of entertainment is being performed by Lyle Pearsons and Margie Secora, well-known singers, actors, and directors of THE RED DOOR THEATRE. Other performers include Richard Authier, known to audiences in the area for roles such as Og in "Finian's Rainbow" and the Jester in "Once Upon A Mattress," and Marilene Allen, who has performed as a cabaret singer in the southern United States and was last seen in this area as Marian in "The Music Man."

For more information or reservations, call (413) 789-2026. Tickets are $7 and all seats are reserved.

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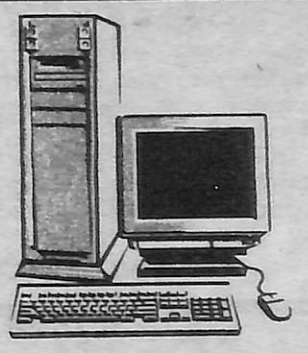
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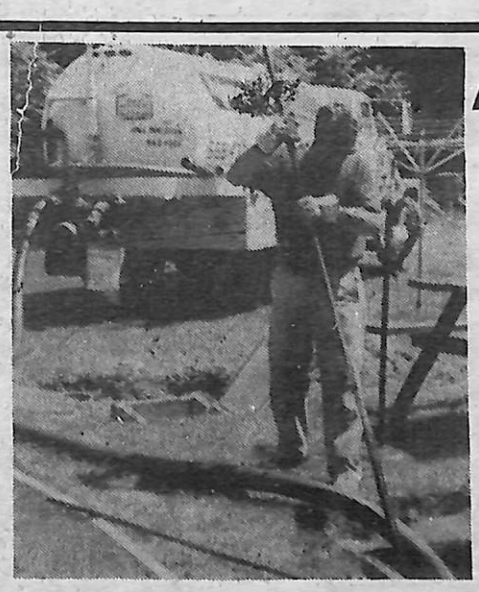
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Education

Science Curriculum In Schools May Include More Hands-On Activities

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

If the School Committee agrees, students in grades seven through 12 will be doing more hands-on activities as they study a science curriculum designed to integrate all domains of science at each grade level, rather than present the sciences in a layer cake model with students learning earth science, biology, chemistry, and physics in isolation.

At last week's School Committee meeting, Science Academic Coordinator Robert Sartwell presented the completed curriculum for grades seven through 10 and predicted work on the two remaining grade levels would soon be complete. When the School Committee meets on October 14th, members are expected to vote on implementing the new course of science studies for the 1998 school year.

The new science curriculum for the secondary schools will complete the work of bringing the study of science in grades pre-k through 12 into line with state curriculum frameworks developed as part of education reform. Last year, a new science curriculum was approved for the elementary schools.

Sartwell said the inquiry-based, hands-on curriculum will interconnect technology, math, and all the scientific disciplines to ensure students are prepared for the state mandated testing to be administered in grades four, eight, and 10.

"Our 1978 science curriculum is not integrated and is not mandated for every ninth and every 10th grader," Sartwell said. Right now, the 7-10 science courses are not integrated. Earth science is taught in seventh grade; life science in eighth grade; physical science in ninth grade, and biology in 10th grade. The current course of study will not prepare the students for the state testing; chemistry and physics are not even presented to them (before 11th grade)."

Group Effort

Sartwell said he pulled together a comprehensive group of teachers from all areas of science and technology at the secondary level to write the new course of science studies. This will ensure a collective ownership and a dedication to the success of the new curriculum, he noted.

With new teaching methodologies firmly enjoined to curriculum content, the new approach to teaching the sciences is going to require professional development and a considerable amount of work on the part of the teachers, Sartwell said.

"This is why I wanted to open this up to a large team so that they will have ownership of the new curriculum," Sartwell said.

School Superintendent Frank Ameruoso said the professional development necessary to support the new curriculum is being put in place to ensure the success of the program.

"We're not going into this unprepared," Ameruoso said.

In addition to Sartwell, the curriculum writing team included science and technology teachers from the junior and senior high schools and the middle school. Serving on the team were Thomas Collins, Arthur Gage, Angela Sullivan, Robert Janik, Linda Ulrich, Richard Joseph, John Alves, Pat Flynn, and John Burns.

STARLAB Coming To Granger School From Oct. 27th-30th

Students and faculty members at Granger School are eagerly awaiting the arrival of "STARLAB," the Springfield Science Museum's portable planetarium.

The program will be presented October 27th to October 30th during school hours. The presentation includes an introductory astronomy lesson, as well as basic explanations of the earth's rotation and the structure of the solar system. Inside the magical "STARLAB" students are given a tour of the night sky with emphasis on constellations, the stars and planets of the season.

The C.M. Granger PTO would like to thank the Agawam Cultural Council for their continued contribution to the cultural life of the community through enrichment programs like "STARLAB" that provide students with the opportunity to gain awareness of, and appreciation for, the world in which we live.

This project is supported, in part, by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

check our classified

Bay Path College Holding Open House On Sat., Oct. 18th

Bay Path College will host an Admissions Open House on Saturday, October 18th, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., with registration from 9:45 to 10:00 a.m. in Deepwood Hall.

The event will offer prospective students and their families an opportunity to meet with members of the staff, faculty, and current students to learn more about Bay Path College, the variety of Baccalaureate and Associate degree programs offered, the application process, and financial aid.

Guests will also receive a presentation on "Getting the Most of a College Visit." Included during the program is a campus tour and a complimentary lunch for students and parents.

For information or to pre-register to attend, call (413) 567-0621 or toll free 1-800-782-7284, no later than October 16th.

best local news...

Agawam High School October 1997 Calendar Of Events

Sept. 29th-Oct. 10th: "Coats for Kids" drive sponsored by the AHS Math Club.

Oct. 1st-3rd: Senior yearbook "kits" are distributed.

Oct. 3rd: This is the last day for seniors to notify Steinmetz Studio as to what pose is to be used for their yearbook photo.

Oct. 4th: S.A.T. examinations - AHS Guidance Department; AHS Band Competition at Enrico Fermi High School.

Oct. 6th: AHS Renaissance Program gold/gold plus card distribution for sophomores, juniors, and seniors; AHS Band Parents' monthly meeting.

Oct. 11th: AHS Band competition at Norwich Academy.

Oct. 12th: AHS Band participating in the Columbus Day Parade. Springfield.

Oct. 13th: Pizza party for Renaissance spring sports GPA winners.

Oct. 16th: AHS School Council meeting, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Oct. 18th: P.S.A.T. examinations - AHS Guidance Department.

Oct. 20th: "As Schools Match Wits" taping.

Oct. 25th: AHS Band competition at Rockville.

Oct. 31st: AHS World Language Department - El Dia de los Muertos (Spanish classes); Costume Day sponsored by Peer Leadership.

Agawam Junior Stamp Club To Meet On Tuesday, October 7th

The Agawam Junior Stamp Club will be holding its first meeting of this school year on Tuesday, October 7th, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Granger School Cafeteria.

All former members of this group are invited to attend, and other young people who are interested in stamp collecting are welcome. Parents are encouraged to attend and participate.

If you are interested in stamp collecting and being part of this group but are unable to attend this meeting on October 7th, please contact either Mrs. Bonnie Moccio at Granger School (821-0580) during school hours, or Mr. Glen LaFontaine at 786-4728 (between 6:30 and 8:30 p.m., Monday through Friday).

Best local news...

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Four Agawam Teens Named "Commended"

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Their exceptional verbal and math skills have earned four Agawam teens a place among the country's top college-bound high school seniors.

Last week, Agawam High School Deputy Principal Paul Cavallo announced that **Chris L. Carson, Shaun K. Kane, Tae G. Lee,** and **Daryl St. Laurent** have been named Commended Students in the 1998 National Merit Scholarship Program.

The four scholastically talented students placed among the top five percent of more than a million students who entered the scholarship competition by taking the Preliminary SAT last fall.

"Obviously, getting this commendation for their PSAT scores is an honor and indicates the capabilities these boys have," Cavallo said. "It's a credit to the school and to themselves. Certainly, they'll be going on to bigger and better things after graduation."

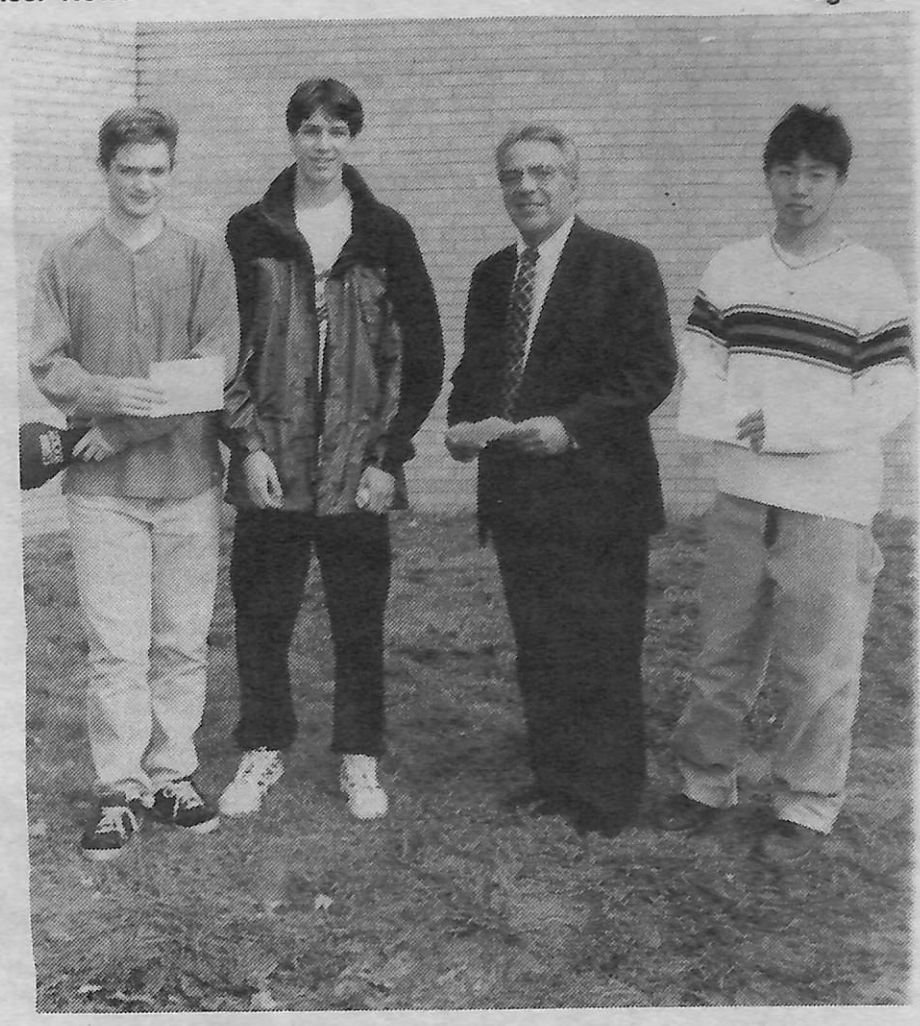
A spokesperson for the National Merit Scholarship Corporation said, "The Merit Program is extremely competitive and the young men and women named Commended Students can be proud of their designation. We honor scholastically talented students in an effort to encourage public interest in their achievements and to broaden their educational opportunities, as well as to credit their schools for the important role they play in their development."

Although none of the young men have settled on a particular college, they are all interested in pursuing careers in engineering.

A member of the lacrosse team, Chris Carson expects to major in computer engineering. "There are a lot of different fields you can go into, like software and hardware design and programm-ing," Chris said.

Daryl St. Laurent also intends to major in engineering at college, but he's "not quite sure what field." Among his extracurricular activities, Daryl is member of the ski team, National Honor Society, Yearbook and Uniqorn staff, Academic Decathlon, As Schools Match Wits team, and student government.

Crediting his math skills with boosting his PSAT score into the Commended Student range, Tae Lee is hoping to study engineering at Georgia Tech or Virginia Tech. Tae plays on the AHS tennis team and is a member of the National Honor Society.



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL "Commended Students" are pictured with Deputy Principal Paul Cavallo - Chris Carson, Daryl St. Laurent, and Ted Lee. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

School Dept. Seeking Parent For Transportation Committee

The School Department is looking for a parent to serve on the School Committee's Transportation Sub-Committee.

The Transportation Sub-Committee meets periodically throughout the school year to discuss issues and policies related to school bus transportation.

Anyone interested in becoming the parent representative can call Terry Landry at the School Department's main office, 821-0554, before October 15th.

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Public Skating All Ages				
SUN. EVE.	7:00 - 10:00	$4.00	N/A	$4.00
Line Dancing with Vance Reed (Not on Skates)				
TUES. EVE.	7:00 - 9:00	$3.50	$2.00	$5.50
Traditional Organ Music				
WED. MAT.	12:30 - 2:00	$3.00	FREE*	$3.00
Parents•Pre-Schoolers (Pre-Schoolers $2.00)				
WED. AFT.	4:00 - 5:30	$3.00	FREE*	$3.00
After School Skating				
WED. EVE.	6:30 - 8:30	$4.00	FREE*	$4.00
Family Night•First member regular price, additional members $2.50				
THUR. ROLLER HOCKEY FOR ALL AGES - CALL FOR TIMES!				
FRI. EVE.	6:30 - 9:00	$4.50	FREE*	$4.50
Family Night•First member regular price. additional members $3.00				
SAT. MORN.	10:00 - 12:00	$3.00	FREE*	$3.00
Kids on Wheels - 6 yrs. old & younger (Parents admitted FREE•Skate Rental $1.00)				
SAT. AFT.	1:00 - 4:00	$4.00	$1.00	$5.00
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AHS Guidance...

by Judith Cohen
Guidance Coordinator
AHS Guidance Dept.

Home Movies...

In regular conversation, it is not unusual to share "home movies" with each other. These are stories of who we are, what our experiences have been, and what makes us uniquely us.

They serve as a "meeting place" for friends to understand and appreciate each other — to find those areas and thoughts we have in common, as well as to find those areas where we can help each other to stretch and grow. These "home movies" are a way of helping us to get to know each other. Using "home movies" in this manner is appropriate.

But ... and this is a big BUT ... there are times when a student comes to talk and to show "home movies" and we are tempted to share our life experiences with the student. I mean, we tell ourselves we are "older and wiser," and this gives us permission to share.

If this does happen, I believe we've lost the contact right there. I mean, by the time a student has reached my office, he/she has seen the "home movies" of many people: parents, relatives, and other well-meaning people. The last thing a students needs is one more "home movie" to view.

Actually, a student is seeking out the counselor to find a person to whom he/she can show his/her movie and give the movie the main focus. By trying to show *our* movie, regardless of our intentions, we are really telling the student that we are ignoring his movie and showing our movie instead.

Yes, we may feel that we have "been there and done that," but have we really? No matter how we might rationalize the point, we cannot truly place ourselves in the youngster's shoes. This is now; our movie was then.

This movie involves the student; our movie involved us. Instead, we need to be aware of the pain and passion involved in the student's movie and carefully listen with a "third ear" in order to appreciate the uniqueness of the student and the situation.

Through all these years of counseling, I have learned that one thing a student does not want to hear from a parent, friend, or counselor, is the statement, "I know just how you feel." Actually, no one knows but that person, since even though events may be similar, the one experiencing the situation brings with him/her a set of feelings, beliefs, emotions, and attitudes that are truly unique to him/her.

So, when your youngster is home and wants to show you his movie, watch it carefully. See and feel its effect on you. Watch the teller of the tale, buy into that person's feelings.

Then, if a response is warranted, make one. Sometimes, one is not necessary. The viewing is all that needs to be done to make all the difference.

GUIDANCE BULLETIN

COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVES: If you are interested in meeting with any of the following college representatives, you should sign up at least a day in advance in the Guidance Office. Pick up your pass the morning of the visit.

September 29th: Sacred Heart University, 12:15; STCC, 10:15.

September 30th: Bryant College, 10:30.

October 1st: UMass Lowell, 9:00; UMass Dartmouth, 9:45; Providence College, 10:15.

October 2nd: College of St. Rose, 10:45; Bentley College, 12:30; University of Rhode Island, 1:00.

SCHOLARSHIPS: See your counselor for more information.

New York University Future Educators Scholarship: Scholarships ranging from $1,000 to $10,000 will be awarded to academically strong students who show a commitment to teaching and attend NYU's School of Education. Deadline: October 10th.

Emory University's Scholars Program: Open to academically talented students who plan to attend Emory.

OPEN HOUSES: See your counselor for more information.

Elms College: Saturday, October 25th; Sunday, November 2nd; and Sunday, November 16th, 9:30 to 2:00.

Elms College Fall Overnight: November 4th-5th.

UMass College of Engineering Open House: October 18th, 12:15 to 3:00.

Johnson State College (VT): Saturday, October 25th, or Saturday, November 15th, 9:30 to 1:30.

U.S. Coast Guard Academy: Will hold an Academy Morning at Algonquin Regional High School in Northborough, MA, on Saturday, October 25th, at 10:00. Any interested students and their parents are welcome to attend.

Dean College: Saturday, October 18th, and Saturday, November 15th, 9:00 to 2:00.

Simmons College: Saturday, November 8th. Overnight Program, October 26th-27th.

Emerson College: Saturday, October 18th, 9:00 to 5:00.

University of Southern Maine: Monday, October 13th, or Saturday, October 25th.

American International College: Saturday, October 18th, 10:00 to 1:00.



UCA ALL STAR CHEERLEADERS - Ashley Boyle, Linda Kelly, Amanda Lemieux, Jillian Nunziato, and Kari Trauschke.

5 Youth Cheerleaders Chosen UCA All Stars For Turkey Day March

Ashley Boyle, Linda Kelly, Amanda Lemieux, Jillian Nunziato, and Kari Trauschke have been chosen as UCA All Stars.

They join a select group of individuals who have displayed outstanding talent in all major aspects of cheerleading. They will join other top youth cheerleaders from around the country in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to march in the 1997 Thanksgiving Day Parade.

The Agawam Youth Cheerleaders, their parents, and their coaches are proud of their accomplishments and wish the girls the best of luck in Philadelphia.

The girls will be collecting money, trying to defray the cost of the trip. Anyone who would like to help make this trip possible may send a donation to Agawam Youth Cheerleaders, c/o Joanne Trauscke, 208 Barry St., Feeding Hills 01030.

AHS Parent Senate To Hold First Meeting On Thursday, Oct. 9th

The first meeting of the Agawam High School Parent Senate will be on Thursday, October 9, 1997 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School cafeteria.

The purpose of the meeting is to establish better lines of communication between the High School administration and parents or guardians of High School students.

All are welcome to attend.

best local news...

Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, October 6th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets, bread and butter, honey and dipping sauce, diced carrots, steamed rice, cinnamon applesauce, milk.

Tuesday, October 7th: Cheeseburg in roll, oven potato puffs with catsup, seasoned green and wax bean medley, apple crisp, milk.

Wednesday, October 8th: Baked hamburg and macaroni with tomato sauce, tossed garden salad with spinach greens and Italian dressing, Italian bread and butter, orange jello with topping or fresh Mac apple, milk.

Thursday, October 9th: Oven-baked pork chopette, whipped potatoes, seasoned broccoli cuts, wheat bread and butter, white cake with chocolate icing, milk.

Friday, October 10th: Taco boat with cheese topping, seasoned niblet corn, mild taco sauce, chilled fruit cup or ice cream cup, milk.

Middle School PTO To Meet On October 6th

The Agawam Middle School PTO will be holding its second meeting of the 1997-1998 school year at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, October 6th, in the school cafeteria. All parents are invited to attend.

The school's fundraiser has now been started, and your support to help make this a success would be greatly appreciated.



LINDA K. BERTRAND

Linda K. Bertrand AIC Faculty Member

American International College in Springfield has added eight new faculty members for the 1997-98 academic year. The announcement was made recently by AIC President Harry J. Courniotes.

Among the new faculty members is Linda K. Bertrand of Agawam, an assistant professor of sociology. She has been an instructor and visiting lecturer at several local colleges, as well as at the Northwestern University School of Nursing.

Her research experience includes a summer fellowship at the Harvard School of Public Health, and two years at the Center for Health Administration at the University of Chicago.

She is presently the associate director of sales and service for Corning-Bioran Medical Laboratory in Cambridge.

Bertrand is a certified personal trainer and aerobics instructor. She received her bachelor's degree from AIC and her master's degree from the University of Chicago.

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Sports

Patterson's Torrid Scoring Pace Puts AHS On Track

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' soccer team has had quite a roller coaster ride lately. It started with a heartbreaking 3-2 loss at Minnechaug last week; kept on going south with a 3-0, lackluster defeat at the hands of Central last Thursday; got better when they ran all over Chicopee Comp, 7-1; and culminated Tuesday afternoon after a two-hour bus ride out to Pittsfield, where they beat Wahconah, 2-1.

Senior Kristen Patterson scored twice to lift AHS over the Division II champs and to continue her torrid goal-scoring pace.

Coach Mary Murray takes the trip up north every other year because playing Wahconah is a good test, adds to their games, and it's a reciprocal thing. Wahconah came out here last season. They make the trek again next time around.

"They're Division Two because of the size of their school, not the size of the hearts in their kids," she noted.

Her kids have to have some heart of their own to endure that bus trip and the thought that if they lost, the ride home would have felt twice as long. They barely had time to warm up once they arrived. The win made the whole thing worth it.

Once again, the key to the victory (as it has been this season and in seasons' past) was Patterson. She scored at 11:25 of the first half off a cross from Amy Mastroianni. Fourteen minutes later, she struck again for her Western Mass. leading 16th goal of the season (with three assists), this time off a lead pass by sweeper Sheri Benton. The result was a breakaway, which is just about money in the bank when Patterson is on the business end of it. It was her third two-goal game of the year to go along with two hat-tricks.

Murray also notes that the strong play of Mastroianni (four goals/four assists), Barbara Maloni (four goals/two assists), and Amber Conte (one goal/six assists), plus the nonstop hustle of Gina Loudfoot and Amanda Tilden, have given Patterson room to roam. "Kristen can play center middle or become a pure striker, depending on the game situation. Last year, she was limited because we didn't have the troops."

Agawam's record now stands at 5-3-1 and 1-1 in the Kurty Division. Wahconah, the defending Division II champs as well as being the co-state champs, fell to 5-2.

The Brownies are now working hard for a big game this Friday night against Kurty foe Westfield. The always-dangerous Bombers will be invading Harmon Smith Field for a 7:00 p.m. game.



MEMBERS OF THE 1997 Agawam High girls' varsity soccer team. Back row, from left -Coach Mary Murray, Gina Loudfoot, Kara Tierney, Sheri Benton, Amanda Tilden, Pam Gervais, Melissa Cote, Barbara Maloni, Dianna DiStefano, Elise Alfano, Katie Shannon, and Jen Lyman. Front row - Amy Mastroianni, Camilla Ringvold, Vanessa Galluzzo, Amber Conte, Kristen Patterson, Jill DeMarco, Aimee Loudfoot, Heather Arcangeletti, Julie Laflamme, and Jen Quigley. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Brownie Gymnasts Rip Gateway To Open New Season

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High girls' gymnastics team opened its season last Friday afternoon with a 115.2-90.85 waltz at Gateway Regional.

Junior standout Lindsey Hadden was first on the bars. Agawam freshman Leila Sekkal placed second in that event, even though she took a tumble.

"Nothing serious, Leila simply fell to the mat," gymnastics Coach Angela Sullivan said. Her score was 7.0. She lost a half point because of the fall, or she could have well won the event.

Sekkal also placed first on the beam. Hadden was third.

The vault saw Hadden take another first. Unfortunately, she hyper-extended both her legs on the landing. Therefore, she wasn't able to compete in the floor event. Sekkal took first in that.

Lindsey Hadden despite participating in just three events, still finished third in the all-around battle. Sekkal was first in the all-around with a score of 31.1.

"It looks like Lindsey will miss at least one meet," the coach said. (That would have been Wednesday against Wahconah.) She hopes to have her back for a big one next Wednesday evening, October 8th, at Minnechaug.

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SENIOR CLASS MEMBERS of the Agawam High varsity field hockey team, from left - Melissa Berry (captain), Jen Zerra, Shauna Hadden, Kelli Kunkel, Ali Pratt (captain), and Stephanie Flemming (captain). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Girls' Field Hockey...

Brownies' Win Streak Is Stopped By Longmeadow; Cathedral Bows To AHS

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

They say all good things must end, so it was for the Agawam High girls' field hockey team.

On a trip to Longmeadow Monday afternoon, they fell to the Lancers, 2-0. That put the wood to their four-game win streak and evened their record at 4-4.

This was not a particularly well-played effort turned in by the Brownies. Longmeadow dominated play for almost the entire game. Maybe the fact that senior Steph Fleming, who came into the thing as the assist leader in the Southern Division (with eight), didn't play for a good part of the afternoon because of some nagging injuries, figured in. But Coach Carla Lemnah-Warner had no excuses. This one could be chalked up to a bad hair day — of the field hockey variety.

The Agawam defense, which has matured since three straight thrashings to start the season, showed well. They just didn't get any rest. Witness the fact that in the entire game, Longmeadow had the ball in the Brownie zone for 49 minutes. The paltry 11 minutes of offense mounted by the locals just couldn't make the nut.

Frustration For The Faithful...

The faithful on hand had to watch in frustration. The way things were going, it was only a matter of time. That the half ended with no score was a tribute to kids like Sarah Nacewicz, Patty Zerra, and Sarah Latif, along with Alison Pratt, Melissa Berry, and Amanda Sternowski.

Agawam had two shots on goal. The Lancers managed four. They would have had more on keeper Mary Elizabeth Dupelle, but the defense deflected volley after volley before the ball reached her.

The saving grace for the Brownies in the second half was still their defense. Dupelle made a gut check stop six minutes into the action. But finally, the first shoe dropped at the 9:40 mark. Junior midfielder Ursula Stahl blasted one home from 50 feet on the left side. It hit the post and kicked in.

A melee in front of the Brownie net at 19:20 saw Stahl score again. It would stand that way for the rest of the way.

Agawam shot twice in the second half. The Lancers managed a total of nine with four in the first half and five in the second, respectively.

* * *

Last Friday, the field hockey team ran its win streak to four straight and its overall slate to 4-3 with a convincing 9-0 win over visiting Cathedral.

Coach Lemnah-Warner noted later that the Panthers were just getting their field hockey program up and running after a hiatus. But it was still an impressive performance by the Brownies who, playing a well-rounded team game, scored early, often, and with a certain flair which showed they had worked extra hard in practice on the basics.

Their first goal came three minutes into the game. It would be the first of four off the stick of senior forward Kelli Kunkel. But what was even more impressive was the crossing pass that led to the score. Steph Fleming, who would have five assists on the afternoon, laid the ball dead on Kunkel's stick. "We worked that crossing play all practice long, yesterday," Fleming smiled after it was over.



SENIOR STEPHANIE FLEMING is one of the top playmakers in the Southern Division in 1997. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

Seven minutes later, tri-captain Alison Pratt drove the ball home again off an assist by Fleming. It was good offensive production for the Brownies: two scores on their first two shots on goal.

Agawam went up 3-0 at 15:15 on a shot out of a melee in front of the Cathedral net. It was Kunkel from Fleming. Less than 30 seconds later, Pratt scored off another cross from Fleming. Less than two minutes later, Kunkel and Fleming hooked up again to make the score 5-0 Brownies.

Help From All Corners...

During the offensive onslaught, help came from all corners. Amanda Sternowski, Danielle DeForge, and Sarah Nacewicz were putting tremendous pressure on the Panther defenders and stealing passes at midfield to initiate the many drives of the first half.

The final score of the half came with five minutes to go. Sarah Hughes hit the back of the net, off an assist from Melissa Berry.

Agawam has seven first-half shots on goal. Cathedral ran up a goose egg.

The mugging continued for the next 30 minutes, but not before Cathedral managed to penetrate fairly deep into the Agawam zone in the first few minutes. However, the Brownie defenders behind

SEE FIELD HOCKEY - Page 47...

Agawam High Freshman & JV Sports Updates

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

BOYS' SOCCER

The junior varsity boys' soccer team hosted the young Colts and came away with a 5-0 victory.

Agawam was up, 1-0, at the half before it began to fire on all cylinders. Freshman **Aaron Gilbert** had the hat-trick. Junior **Dave Gallerani** had two scores.

The assists for the now 6-2-1 youngsters went to **Jack Pearson,** Gallerani, **Mike Sullivan, Brian Lopes,** and **Brad Theriaque,** who all had one apiece.

JV Coach Glenn Olson singled out the goaltending of sophomore **Derek Mercadante.** "Derek made some key saves that really fired up our offense," he noted.

The freshman boys' soccer team raised its record to 6-1-1 with a 2-1 decision over Minnechaug.

"They have been the only team to beat us this year, so it was a satisfying victory," freshman Coach Al O'Quinn smiled.

Josh Dickman had both goals for the frosh. **John DeCaro** had an assist.

Coach O'Quinn singled out **Tim Chretien** and **Jim Evans.** "Tim marked their best player and did a great job. Jim had an overall good day on defense," he said.

FIELD HOCKEY

Accompanying their varsity sisters, the girls' junior varsity field hockey team lost to Longmeadow, 3-0, on Monday afternoon.

The freshman team did not play.

GIRLS' SOCCER

The junior varsity girls' soccer team came away with a 0-0 tie against Wahconah.

Last Friday, the freshman girls overwhelmed visiting Central, 9-0. In that one, **Amy Jensen, Davida Flynn,** and **Heather Newalu** had two goals each. **Emily Norris, Vanessa Planzo,** and **Valerie Siedek** contributed one apiece.

Trail Ride Slated By Westfield Riding Club

The Westfield Riding Club will hold a trail ride and pig roast at the club grounds, 29 Fowler Road, on October 12th.

Sign-in will be at 10:00 a.m. with coffee and donuts and the marked trail ride will begin at 11:00 a.m.

Volleyball, horseshoes, and other activities will be available before the pig roast which begins at 4:00 p.m.

For tickets and information, call Debbie Toomey, (413) 623-6882 by October 5th or Jennifer Seymour (860) 379-2035.

Cost is $20 for adults; $10 for children ages nine through 18; and free for children under eight. The event will be held rain or shine.

A hunter pace is planned. The next regular meeting will be held at the clubhouse on Tuesday, October 7th at 7:00 p.m. A potluck supper will precede the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

best local news...

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"A Bad Day" Sums Up Boys' Soccer Loss To Chicopee Comp

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

"It was just a bad day at the office."

That's how the Agawam High boys' soccer Coach Dwight Northrup described his team's 2-1 loss to Chicopee Comp on Tuesday afternoon. It was bad not only as a bitter defeat, but bad because it was a loss in their division, the Churchill-Moriarty. The locals had been 4-0 there and 5-2-1 overall. Comp came in at 2-3-2 and 1-2-2 in the league.

Seeing that the game had the extra incentive being at Harmon Smith Field, one might have surmised the Brownies would be favored by good circumstances rather than cursed by poor play.



SENIOR SWEEPER JAY FLOOD has shown well for Agawam boys' soccer this year. Advertiser News photo by Dave Rollins.

For some time, things were as even as the stripes on a referee's jersey. Jason Flood was showing well at sweeper. Ryan Grealis was intercepting passes and disrupting the Colts at midfield. The rest of the defense, including Dave Federico, Rich Rodriguez, and Joe DiVirgilio, were playing heads-up soccer in front of keeper Bryan O'Quinn.

But the offense, which has scored 17 goals up to that point, was sputtering badly. And as the game wore on, things became a lot more than even for the Colts, much to the chagrin of Northrup.

His anxieties became reality with 7:51 left in the first half. Comp got a free kick which beat O'Quinn to the left corner. Just like that, the Brownies were down, 1-0.

The half ended that way. Agawam had three slots on the Colt goal. Comp answered with four.

It might have gotten worse to start the second half, but O'Quinn made a hard dive to his left to stop a shot with just under two minutes gone. Minutes later, the All-Western Mass keeper had to do his acrobatic act a second time, making a save hard to his right. When the Brownies managed a shot, more often than not it was high or just wide. At 24-17, Comp scored again on a nice crossing pass.

Strategy Temporarily Backfires...

Comp was now taking the play Agawam's way. That strategy backfired momentarily at 20:42. The Colt defenders, perhaps a bit too frisky, got caught upfield. Jay Murphy darted behind them on a breakaway. A Comp defender finally ran him down 30 yards out. Murphy, in a heads-up move, spotted the streaking Umberto Santaniello (unmarked) down the center of the field. He spun and laid a perfect pass on Santaniello's toe. The shot was true. Agawam had gotten one goal back.

They would get no more. But the effort was there. DiVirgilio got off a 20-yard header at the 17-minute mark, but it went a foot wide right. Jay Moore belted one seven minutes later. It, too, missed right.

Comp would end the game with an offensive thrust. The Brownies would end it the way they'd spent most of it, on defense.

Agawam had three second-half shots on net for a total of six. Comp fared little better, getting off five for a total of nine. It wasn't that they shot better, only that one more of their attempts found the back of the Agawam net.

FIELD HOCKEY - from Page 46...

Hughes, DeForge, and Sarah Prussman would have none of it.

Kunkel made it 7-0 at the 13:48 mark on a cross from Pratt. With Patty Zerra and Latif controlling the midfield area, it wasn't long before Agawam made it 8-0 on another Kunkel-from-Pratt deal.

The final Agawam goal in the 9-0 pasting happened with 6:30 to go. Pratt got her fourth goal of the contest on a cross from Shauna Hadden.

Agawam had eight shots on goal in the second half for a game total of 15. The Panthers, at this writing, still have not seen the back of the net.

Sacred Heart Athletic Association

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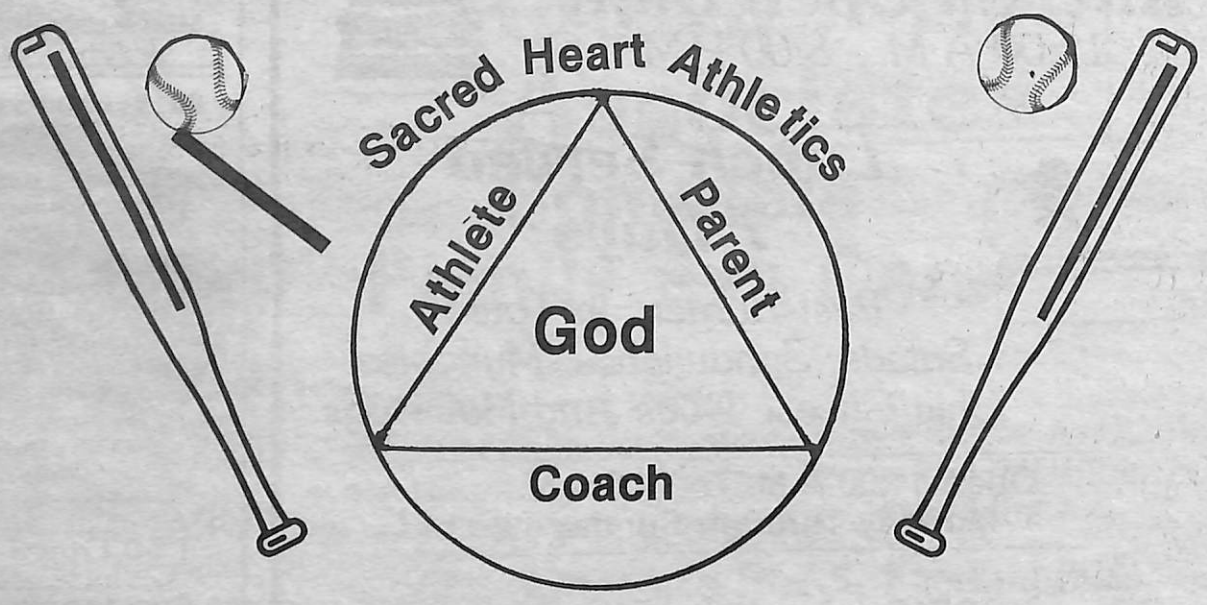
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AHS Football Preview...

Vecchiarelli Sees Minnechaug Game As A Time For Payback

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

The Agawam High football team, coming off two straight losses, travels to Minnechaug on Saturday for a 2:00 p.m. battle against the Falcons, who are 1-2 and coming off a big, 44-30 win over West Springfield.

This has to be a revenge game of sorts for the Brownies. Last season, when Minnechaug came calling, things turned very sour. Agawam had built up a 27-15 halftime lead. They ended up losing, 28-27. "It was our worst performance in a long time," Brownie football Coach Dean Vecchiarelli admitted.

It might be a very tough one this time around. Minnechaug, befitting their name, has taken to the air. The formidable Falcon offense is led by junior quarterback Mike McCloskey. In three games this season, he has thrown for over 700 yards and seven touchdowns. That could mean some serious trouble for the Brownies.

Up to now, they have met two strong teams; one could pass and did it with much success against them (Northampton); the other was a team which doesn't even know how to spell pass (Chicopee) and simply ran the ball down their throats.

Their defensive backs will be tested by a brace of receivers as good as anyone in Western Massachusetts — senior Chris Hill and junior Jeff Moss. Hill has three TD catches so far. Moss, a speed merchant, also has three catches and receptions totaling close to 300 yards (79 of those came on a reception against Northampton).

In addition, slotback Matt Livermore can also catch the ball (9-140 vs. West Side), as can another slotback, senior Will Crowley. So, the Agawam secondary could be in for a long afternoon.

The Falcon Defense...

The Falcon defense isn't as potent as their offense. A team can run, pass, and score on them. That fact should bode well for Agawam tailback Brian Gallagher, who has 173 yards and a touchdown on 36 carries in his first two games. His offensive line has opened holes for him. But so far this season, the team has been in a hole from the start and was forced to pass rather than take the land route.

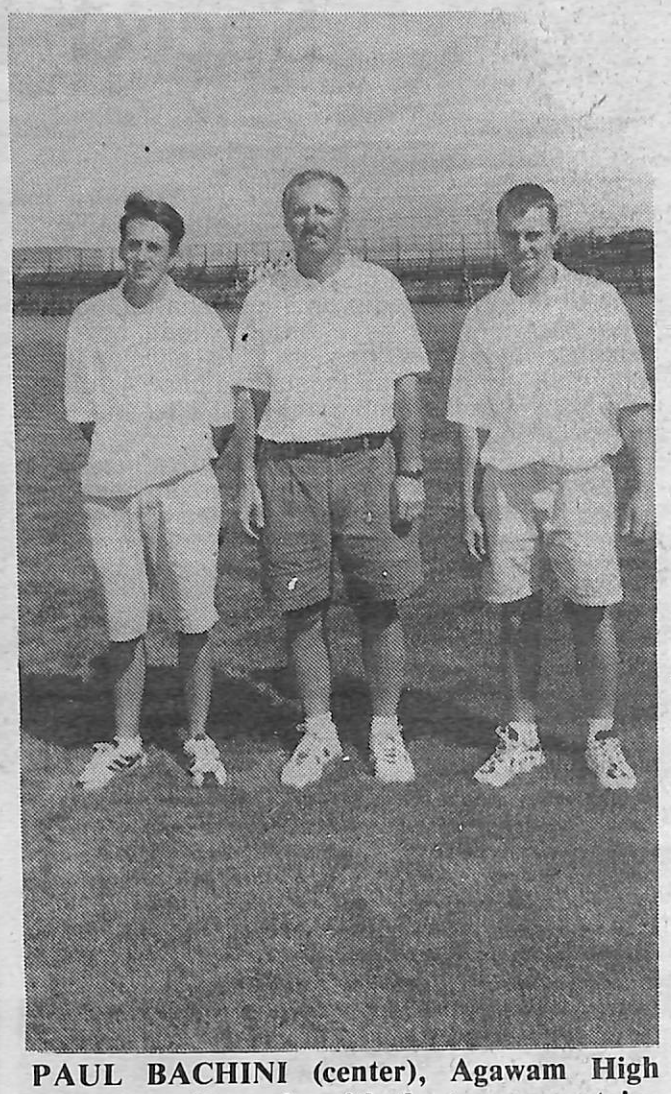
Sophomore quarterback Brian St. James (19-53, 255, 1 TD, 2 int.) is still on a learning curve. Sometimes he misses the open man. Sometimes he throws into coverage.

Mike Wing and Eric Melbourne are adequate targets when the ball can get to them. Melbourne suffered a concussion against Chicopee, but should be ready. One guy who definitely will not play is defensive back Andy St. Jean. He is out for the year with a dislocated shoulder, suffered in practice. His savvy and senior leadership will be missed, especially against the flying Falcons.

They've faced two common opponents this year, Northampton and Chicopee. The Brownies suffered against both teams, 19-6 and 34-7, respectively. Minnechaug also fell, 29-15 to the Blue Devils and 25-19 to the Pacers. If Agawam can get its offense untracked, this could be a high-scoring game. Maybe the idea of payback time will be the incentive they need.

DAVE ROLLINS is another reason why you read The AAN each and every week...

Say "Fore!!!"



PAUL BACHINI (center), Agawam High School's golf coach, with the two co-captains of the fall 1997 team - Kyle Gendron (left) and Chris Rousseau (right). Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Where Are They Now????

Linda Kunasek's Long Road Back Brings Her To AHS Coaching Ranks

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

If you are involved in any way with Agawam High School athletics, then you probably know Lynda Kunasek. She coaches the girls' junior varsity soccer and softball teams, and freshmen girls' basketball. She is indeed a coach for all seasons.

Lynda graduated from AHS in 1980. During her stay there, she participated in varsity soccer, varsity softball, and basketball. Softball was her favorite, where she excelled as a catcher and captained the team in her senior year.

She also played three years of summer softball during her high school days on a team called the Lionettes. It was made up of the best players from Western Mass. "We were between 16 and 18 years-old. We would play in the Pioneer Valley and also travel all over New England. We were in a league that enabled college coaches to get a good look at us against top level competition," she said.

Along with being captian of the AHS team in her senior year, she was also elected captain of the Lionettes as well as being named to the league all-star team.

In 1984, *The Agawam Advertiser News* did a feature on Lynda, her younger brother, Tony, and her dad, David, who played pro baseball for the Chicago Cubs and L.A. Dodgers' farm teams. The article looked at the fact that all of them, during their time at AHS, were captains of varsity sports. Tony and David led the baseball team in their respective years.

So, in 1984, Lynda, because of athletic skills that might have led to scholarships, should have been about to graduate from college (with perhaps the same honors she'd achieved in her high school career). It never happened. By then, she was well on her way into the downward spiral of alcoholism. "I took the other road," she said. "While my friends at Agawam High were going off to continue their education, I went for the social life in the fast lane."

That fast lane, more often than not, means someone's life is going to hit the wall eventually. Lynda was headed, full speed, towards that wall. "The 1980's were very disappointing for me. I had wasted my talent. I had no interest in education. In the true way of an alcoholic, I listened to nobody," she said softly.

In a short time, she lost the two people who, she would realize later, had influenced her the most. In 1986, her dad died from complications following open heart surgery. His voice of reason and concern, because he loved her, was one of those the disease forced her to ignore.

"I knew, somehow, that I was losing time, and even more importantly, I was losing the love and



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL girls' junior varsity soccer Coach Lynda Kunasek.

respect of people I loved and respected," she admitted. For a star athlete, where respect came with the territory, that was a bitter pill to swallow, almost as sour as the alcohol she consumed.

In 1990, another voice that had reached out to her also vanished, when her mother, Louise, moved to Florida. Her older brother, David, went with their mom. Her other brother, Tony, was in Michigan, attending law school. "I was 28 years-old and all alone. I'd done nothing since high school. Zero. I was stagnant, working here and there, avoiding responsibility for anything. I had hit bottom."

Something Better

Her realization that she had a serious problem, fortunately for her, didn't come in the way it visits most people who hit the bottle. "There was nothing earth shattering. I wasn't involved in an accident. I didn't land in jail. I just woke up one day and realized that everyone had advanced but me. My real friends, not my drinking ones, had moved on. My life was out of control. It was then that I realized I was sick and tired of being sick and tired. I wanted something better," she said.

That realization and revelation happened seven years ago.

She'll celebrate her 35th birthday on October 4th. She will celebrate those seven years of sobriety on October 30th. Since that day, good things started to happen. Alcoholics Anonymous became part of her life and she began to work hard at getting back the respect she had lost. "I started to believe in myself again. I needed other people to believe in me," she smiled.

She was newly sober when a coaching opportunity opened up at AHS. "They wanted a freshman basketball coach. I went up there and was totally honest with them about myself, how my life was, and what I wanted to accomplish in the future."

Athletic Director Kathy McSweeney listened. "She had faith in me and recommended me for the job to (varsity) Coach Lou Conte. I was hired," Lynda said. From there, her coaching career blossomed onward and upward.

Serious Mission

One of her major efforts now is to make the kids she coaches aware of what can happen with alcohol abuse. She takes that mission seriously. "I tell them you can never get back the time you lose. I want them to listen to me before they ever get to where I was - not listening to anyone." Then she added, "I've been there. It's no way for any person to live."

Parents have called her to talk to their kids who were having problems. "I'd like to reach them all, but even just one would make me happy," she said. "I want to motivate them away from the bad things and towards the wonderful things that are out there for all of us. In the end, it's easier to maintain an honest and healthy life than to lose it and have to get it back again. Some people never do come back."

She likes the person she sees in the mirror now. When she was five years sober, she got what she considers one of the greatest compliments of her life. "A girl I'd gone to school with and who had known me during the bad times asked if I'd babysit her first-born. She told me at one time she never thought she'd be doing something like that. But she said she felt completely comfortable having me look after her child."

Lynda has her own cleaning business. "It's a lot of work. But I'm my own boss. I juggle my hours so I'm able to coach. It works out well," she said.

"The time lost to substance abuse, in whatever form it might be, can never be recovered. But life can go on in a positive manner," she stressed again. In the future, she hopes to work full-time counseling kids on making the right choices.

Lynda Kunasek may never make up the time, but in essence, she is living a quote from writer George Eliot, *"There is still time to become what you could have been."*

AHS Swim Team Car Wash



IN ANTICIPATION of the upcoming winter interscholastic swim season, Agawam High School swimmers held a benefit car wash on September 20th at Sacred Heart Church. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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Pioneer Valley Soccer Round-Up

U-9 Girls - "Twisters"

In the game between the Agawam Twisters and Wilbraham on Saturday, September 27th, the score was 1-0, Wilbraham. Goalie M. Santos saved three shots on goal. A great job on defense was done by Sarah Wilson and Brittany Margoitta.

Halfbacks Rachel Porkorny and Erin Theriault did a good job. This was Agawam's second loss this year, only to return and win on Sunday.

On Sunday, September 28th, the Twisters met Westfield. Goalie Stephanie Obue save two shots on goal.

Fullbacks Natalie Honsinger and Amy Dulude did a great job keeping the ball in possession. The final score was Agawam 1, Westfield 0.

The only goal of the game was scored by Christina Bertrand.

U-10 Girls - "Hot Shots"

On Saturday, September 27th, the Hot Shots played another team from Ludlow, the Lions. This game saw the comeback of one of our regular goalies who had not yet been able to play that position this season due to a broken wrist. Her debut turned out well with a very good showing.

Our defense was doing a great job keeping the ball out of the back field and the shots she did take were handled well. About 10 minutes into the game, our left forward scored our first goal. Then, at the 18-minute mark, our center sent the ball into the net.

The first half ended with our defense holding off all the attacks from the Lions. We managed to eliminate that dreaded half-time "0" again with the score Hot Shots 2, Lions 0.

During the second half, we seemed to dominate the game even more than the first half. Our center put two balls in the net at the six- and eight-minute marks. After this, we decided it was time to move players into positions they normally don't play in, in hopes that they will learn more about other positions.

The team was having lots of fun playing all those different positions and they were playing well. Then, at the 18-minute mark, our right forward (who normally plays our sweeper) drilled a ball into the goal to give us our final goal. The game ended 5-0, thus ending the first half of our PVJSL season with a record of four wins, three losses.

Sunday, starting the season's second half, brought us up against the Terrors of Ludlow agaain. This would be our third time this season playing the Terrors.

So far, the first two games were very close with great playing from both teams. When these two teams come together, you can expect it to be a very aggressive and challenging game.

When we arrived at the field, the game prior to us was just starting, which meant the games were about 45 minutes late. Once our game got under way, we could tell it would be just like the other two games.

Ludlow scored twice at about 11 and 13 minutes into the first half. Agawam wasn't ready to give up yet and our center scored one minute later. We ended the first half 2-1 in favor of Ludlow. We weren't done with them yet.

In the second half, the Hot Shots showed the Terrors why we were there and we spent much of the second half on their end of the field with numerous chances at scoring. Unfortunately, we could not find the nets this day and finished the game Ludlow 2, Hot Shots 1.

The girls put a lot of effort into these two games and it was a lot of fun watching them perform.

U-11 Girls - "Cobras"

Week of Sept. 15 through Sept. 20, 1997

The Cobra girls improved their record to 5-0 with a win over the Agawam Unbrolievables. Both teams played very well. The Cobras controlled the ball most of the game and had numerous shots on goal. The final was 2 to zip, Cobras.

The second game of the week saw the Cobras play a much-improved Cold Spring team. The girls from Belchertown gave the Cobras a really good game. The Cobras controlled much of the action in the first half, where they scored the game's lone goal.

Week of Sept. 21 through Sept. 27, 1997

The Cobra girls traveled to Ashe Park in Chicopee to take on AJAC. Although the Chicopee girls were unable to generate any offense, many good saves by their goalie kept this game close.

The Cobras kept the ball in the AJAC end of the field for most of the game. AJAC packed the defensive zone for most of the game, and the only Agawam score came early in the second half for a 1-0 Agawam win.

On Saturday, the Cobras traveled to East Longmeadow. There they showcased both their passing and scoring abilities. Many times they passed the ball upfield and into the net. They won this game 6-0 and bettered their record to 8-0-0.

U-13 Girls - "Cougars"

The Cougars were on the prowl again. After suffering a 1-0 loss to St. Catherine's on Saturday, September 27th, despite the defensive efforts of Angela Buendo, Brittany Theriaque, Sabrina Brizzolari, Tina Knodler, Ashley Marek, and Sarah Leydon, the cats licked their wounds and set off to hunt down Westfield at Stanley Park on Sunday, September 28th.

Jodie Pfau scored a goal, assisted by Kaitlin Haglund. Sweeper Heather Cox and fullback Katie Baum repeatedly sent the ball back toward Westfield's goal. Gina Saimeri, as goalie, stopped Westfield from scoring with several solid saves. At the half, Agawam held the lead with a score of 1-0.

The second half of play proved grueling. Depsite the repeated attempts of Lindsay Francis, Andrea Conte, Caitlin Holland, Erin McClane, and Ashleigh Chrusciel, the Cougars were unable to capitalize for a goal. Westfield scored, tying Agawam 1-1. The Cougars' record stands at 3-3-2.

U-13 Girls - "Tigers"

The U-13 Agawam Tigers moved into second place in Division A with an easy 5-0 win over Gateway on Saturday, September 27th, at Gateway Regional High School.

Goalie Sherri Laskowski registered the shutout. Fullback/striker Melissa Savenko scored two goals, one in each half. The Tigers led 4-0 at the intermission. Other goal scorers were Meaghan Brown, Brittany Taylor (a great individual effort where she was knocked down and then quicky recovered, retrieved the ball, and shot it in from the goalmouth), and center halfback Whitney Brown (a bullet from the top of the penalty area).

The Tigers met the Ludlow Cyclones for the second time this season on Tuesday, September 30th, at Smith & Wesson. The two teams battled to a scoreless tie on September 6th. The Cyclones took a hardfought 2-1 victory this time to move their record to 4-1-4 while the Tigers dropped to 6-2-1.

The Tigers opened the scoring just three minutes into the game when fullback Tricia Fitchben's shot from outside the penalty area was beautifully deflected in by wing Meaghan Brown. However, the rest of the half went completely flat for the Tigers as the Cyclones managed to apply pressure on goalie Vicky Taylor on several occasions (several strong saves), although there was much ragged play in and around the middle of the field.

Disaster struck twice within two minutes midway through the half as the Cyclones scored on consecutive corner kicks that were inadvertently knocked in by Tiger defenders.

The second half, however, saw the Tigers pick up the intensity, especially in the final 15 minutes when the Cyclones were constantly backed deep in their zone by relentless pressure. But the Cyclone goalie was outstanding. She thwarted wing Kaitlin Sardella on several occasions, including one diving stop on a ball that was heading for the corner of the net.

The Tigers also had 10 corner kicks in the second half, including seven in the last eight minutes. Their best chance to score in the final two minutes came when Kaitlin Sardella's corner kick hooked over the goalie's head and seemed to be going in. But a great headball by the Cyclones' sweeper just pushed the bid out of harm's way.

Striker Danielle Cirillo and wing Meaghan Brown also played strong in the second half, as did fullback Tricia Fitchben, center fullback Melissa Savenko, sweeper Kim Hoague, and halfbacks Aimee Beaudette and Jen Sharpe.

U-9 Boys - "Ball Hogs"

The Ball Hogs made a victorious clean sweep of this weekend's games and got back on the winning track!

On Saturday, the Ball Hogs defeated Our Lady of Hope with a 2-0 final score. The Hogs came on strong with an aggressive offense and kept their opponent's goalie busy with a multitude of shots.

Goals by Ryan Wytrych in the first half and Greg Santos in the second gave the Hogs their 2-0 victory. Chris Darnell, Anthony DePalma, and Bryant Damours also contributed to the Hogs' outstanding offensive line. Once again, the Hogs' strong defense succeeded in shutting down their opponent, with goalie Jason Polek getting his fourth shutout.

On Sunday, the Ball Hogs traveled to Belchertown and were involved in a very thrilling game. The 1-0 victory was the result of a strong and undermanned team effort.

Thomas Albano played at the sweeper position and was outstanding. His speed and aggressiveness were a key part of the victory. Once again, Jason Polek was awesome in goal, stopping several shots, including a short-range penalty shot right before the end of the first half.

Strong defensive plays by Chris Wyman, Sean Conway, Branden Shuwalter, and Allen Murphy were necessary in the game and included clearing a shot that would have given Belchertown the lead early in the second half.

The only goal, scored by Carmino Bonavita in the final minutes of the game, was the result of Carmino's and Anthony Costas' determination and hustle in front of the net.

Next weekend, the Ball Hogs will host East Longmeadow on Saturday and visit Amherst on Sunday. The Ball Hogs' record stands at 5-1-1.

U-10 Boys - "Cheetahs"

On Saturday, the Cheetahs met the Amherst Lightning. Steve Powers scored first for the Cheetahs on a high shot over the goalie's head.

Agawam held this lead until midway in the second half when Amherst scored to tie it up. Despite some threatening moments at the end of the game, which provided for some excitement for the fans, Agawam could not score and again settled for a 1-1 tie.

On Sunday, Agawam played the Holy Cross Panthers. Holy Cross scored early in the first half.

Agawam played well, with several scoring opportunities that were thwarted by tough goaltending by the Panthers.

Late in the second half, John Leydon scored for the Cheetahs to give Agawam a 1-1 tie.

U-13 Boys - "Dynamos"

On Wednesday, September 24th, the Agawam Dynamos defeated the Amherst Panthers, 3-0, at Smith & Wesson field. The Dynamos dominated the entire game. The first two Agawam goals were scored by Mike Dombrowski, and the third goal was tallied by Chris Evans.

On Saturday, September 27th, the Dynamos played the East Longmeadow Tornados at East Longmeadow. In four long years, the Dynamos have never defeated the Tornados and, in the past two years, have managed three or four well-played ties.

Today was different. The Dynamos were fired-up and very excited as they sported their new orange and white uniforms. The coaches and parents seemed to sense something good was going to happen today. Could today be the day the Dynamos would end their four-year quest to defeat East Longmeadow?

Both teams played a very fast-paced game. Midway through the first half, Mike McGeoghan took a high bouncing ball from Jon Sikes and headballed it over the goalie's outstretched arms and walked the ball into the net from his right forward position.

This seemed to assure the Dynamos that they were off to the good start they knew they needed. The Dynamos dominated play the entire first half of the game, consistently being first to the ball and playing in East Longmeadow's side of the field approximately 70 percent of the time.

Throughout the game, forwards Mike McGeoghan, Ryan Ward, Mike Dombrowski, and Chris Evans played well and had some excellent scoring opportunities. Mike Dombrowski and Ryan Ward each hit the crossbar and Ryan Ward hit the goal post.

Even at that, East Longmeadow's defense held together. Ryan Ward had another good scoring opportunity; however, East Longmeadow's goalie James Thorpe made an excellent save.

The second goal came midway through the second half. Again, Mike McGeoghan took a pass from Greg Cizek and scored a goal from close in near the goal. The Dynamos, as in the first half of the game, dominated play in the second half of the game.

Head coach Jeff Rousseau and assistant coach Glenn Olson did an excellent job of substituting players often to insure that rested players could keep up the fast pace and kept the offense going so there wouldn't be any letdown in play after scoring the second goal.

Midfielders Greg Cizek, Brian March, Paul Lagasse, Craig Jendza, and Adam Astle played their positions well, containing their opponents or beating their opponents to the ball and then dribbling the ball upfield or sending their forwards.

SEE PIONEER VALLEY SOCCER - Page 51...

PIONEER VALLEY SOCCER - from Page 50...

The Department of Defense, which includes players Paul Pilegi, David Bienia, Bruce Leclair, Jon Sikes and Ryan Lynch, stopped every East Longmeadow scoring threat, containing their opponents or beating their opponents to the ball and then turning the ball upfield to their offense before East Longmeadow's attack fully developed.

The defense played so well that backup goalie Joe Stevenson (playing in his second consecutive game for the injured Vinny Martucci) had to make only four saves the entire game. Two of the four saves Stevenson had to make were of the type that Stevenson had to read the play, run out, smother, and cover up the ball to prevent the only two good scoring opportunities East Longmeadow had. It was Stevenson's second shutout in as many games.

The parents were very enthusiastic. Throughout the game, many words of encouragement such as "good play" or "nice ball" could be heard. As the game ended, the Dynamos jumped in celebration for, finally, their four-year quest was over as they defeated East Longmeadow, 2-0.

As the Dynamos approached their parents on the sidelines, the parents gave the team a well-deserved standing ovation. Huge, victorious smiles were seen on the players' faces for today, the victory belongs to the Agawam Dynamos.

U-14 Boys - "Rockets"

Saturday morning brought a Southwick team to Agawam ready to play soccer. Both sides put good pressure on the opposing defense until Southwick scored for a 1-0 lead.

This was the first goal of the regular season allowed by the Rockets this year. Agawam came back later in the half when a shot by Vinny Outhuse from 20 yards out settled into the far upper corner to knot the score. The game continued to seesaw back and forth, but neither team could cash in on any more scoring chances and the game ended in a 1-1 tie.

Sunday saw a much different Rockets team show up at the field much to the dismay of Amherst as the Rockets handed the visitors a 7-0 defeat.

Seven different players each scored a goal as the Rockets showed great team play throughout the game. Evan Machos started the scoring with his second header off a corner kick this season with just one minute to play in the first half.

The scoring barrage was started early in the second half on a nice finish by John Lynch off a cross by Nick DePalma. Matt Ligenza and Nick DePalma each added a goal as the Rockets kept the pressure on.

Brian McGuire notched his first goal of the season on a penalty shot with Matt Zajdel finishing the scoring on a one-timer from 10 yards out on another beautiful cross.

1997 Fall Soccer, In-Town Boys
(As Of September 28, 1997)

U12 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Lyman's Blue Hawks	6	0	0	12
Harlow's Fighting Irish	3	1	2	8
Ferreira's Knights	2	2	2	6
Martin's Gold Lightning	2	2	1	5
Myers' Red Storm	1	4	1	3
Moysis' Strikers	0	5	0	0

U10 BOYS' TEAMS	W	L	T	P
Nawskon's Lightning	5	0	2	12
Foley's Green Machine	4	1	1	9
Gonyeau's Red Dogs	4	2	1	9
Sabola's Minutemen	4	3	0	8
Mokrzycki's Golden Warriors	3	4	0	6
Holmes' Blue Bombers	1	5	1	2
Skolnick's Men In Black	0	6	1	1

Agawam Soccer Association Standings
(As Of September 28, 1997)

UNDER 10 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Lyman's Gold	7	0	0	14
Brewster's Maroon	3	2	2	8
Maloney's Navy Blue	3	3	1	7
Gould's Orange	3	4	1	7
Pfau's Royal Blue	2	2	3	7
Wood's Green	2	4	0	4
Klimczak's Red	0	5	1	1

UNDER 12 GIRLS	W	L	T	P
Adams' Blue Lightning	6	1	1	13
Patrick's Blue Sonic	5	2	0	10
Zmaczynski's Big Green	4	2	1	9
Francis' Orange Crushers	3	2	1	7
Chiclana's Golden Eagles	3	4	1	7
Rollins' Red Hot Peppers	1	4	2	4
Morace's Maroon	0	7	0	0

UNDER 14 COED	W	L	T	P
Southwick	7	0	0	14
Heneghan's Red	4	2	0	8
Fournier's Royal Blue	4	3	1	9
Spear's Green	1	4	1	3
Hamre's Orange	0	4	1	1
Fleming's Blue Vikings	0	3	3	3

UNDER 17 COED	W	L	T	P
Kelly's Navy Blue	4	0	0	8
Cincotta's Big Green II	3	1	0	6
Gaffney's Red	1	3	0	2
Fleming's Orange	0	4	0	0

Food Booths At Soccer Jamboree By Jr. Women's Club

The Agawam Junior Women's Club will be providing two mini food booths at the Soccer Jamboree this year. At the SHEA/ROBINSON Park Complex, they will be serving hot dogs, coffee, soda, chips, candy, and baked goods for your convenience.

At the Agawam Junior High School, soda, chips, and candy will be served. The Agawam Junior Women's Club looks forward to another exciting weekend of soccer as only the AGAWAM/SOUTHWICK teams can provide. Let's cheer them on as best we can.

Again, the Agawam Junior Women's Club will be requesting a **canned good** from Agawam parents to feed our less fortunate families during the holidays, which are just around the corner.

Your contributions during this drive are greatly appreciated by all families. A FOOD COLLECTION BOX will be available at both locations.

Keep in mind that very often, the Agawam Junior Women's Club's food baskets are given to a family who has lost a head-of-household, a job, or discovered a serious illness at this time of year. That person could be YOU!

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Outdoors New England

by Kent Servis
Outdoor Writer

The Division of Fisheries and Wildlife has boosted the annual fall stocking of trout in area waters. What is normally just a token stocking for fall fishing, has gotten a boost!

Area waters throughout the valley will be receiving a larger allotment of trout, with some approaching the two-pound mark.

This is the best time of the year for outdoorsmen. A fresh stocking of trout and some of the Atlantic salmon broodstock will keep anglers busy. The upcoming upland game season is just around the corner and nature is displaying its finest fall colors.

BLACK POWDER FANS TAKE NOTE

For those readers who have not yet heard, the Fisheries and Wildlife Board approved the following changes to the state's deer hunting regulations.

The Primitive Firearms Season is extended to six days. It will begin on the Monday after the end of the 12-day Shotgun Season. This year, the season will run from December 15th to December 20th.

Archers may hunt during the Primitive Firearms Season, provided that they buy a primitive firearms stamp. Archers, like primitive firearms hunters, must wear the required "hunter orange" clothing if they choose to hunt during this season.

The board removed the one deer/one day limit. Any hunter who has killed and checked in a deer may continue hunting the same day for his or her second deer after obtaining a second deer permit.

Hunters in Deer Management Zone 10 (North Shore) will be allowed an additional antlerless permit until all permits allocated for the zone are sold (approximately 1,400 remained after the permit drawing in 1996). Basically this increases the limit in this zone to three deer (although only two may be bucks).

A hunter who has harvested an antlerless deer in this or any other zone can buy one additional permit to harvest an antlerless deer in this zone. Those extra permits for DMZ 10 will be available only at the Northeast District office in Acton and at the Division Field Headquarters in Westborough.

Cold fronts and low water levels have hampered fishing in rivers and streams. The Connecticut River has been producing both largemouth and smallmouth bass, but locating fish can be a position. Try small crankbaits around obstructions in the deepest water you can find.

Congamond Lakes is giving up some real nice largemouth bass on jig and pig combos. Deep structure is the key to success. As the temperature falls, slow your presentation.

SALT WATER

Stripers and bluefish are beginning the southward migration and are bulking up for the long journey.

Surf fishermen are scoring on some nice fish from the Rhode Island beaches and breachways. Chunk baits fished on the bottom and swimming plugs are accounting for some nice catches.

Boat fishermen are reporting blackfish numbers are up in all of the usual spots. Striper and bluefish action is good at the Montauk rips and the Race. Black Point has given up some decent fish, including some gorilla-sized blues in the rip on an outgoing tide.

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Berkshire Power Golf Tourney Helps AHS Athletics



GETTING READY TO TEE-OFF at the Annual Berkshire Power Golf Tournament that benefitted the Agawam High Athletic Dept. were, from left - Kenneth Roberts, Berkshire Power project manager; Daniel Keenan, state rep., Susan Pettazzoni, School Committee member; Joann McGeoghan, Berkshire staff member; Kathy McSweeney, AHS athletic director; Christopher C. Johnson, mayor; and Ron Dunn, golf pro. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



MORE PLAQUE HOLDERS from the Berkshire Power Golf Tournament, from left - Joann McGeoghan, Berkshire Power staff; Bob Hadden, Linda Hadden, Dan Caroleo, and Donna Roberts. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



HOLDING THEIR PLAQUES at the Berkshire Power Golf Tournament at the Agawam Municipal Country Club were, from left - Donald Gallerani, Mark Pfau, Ronald Wieners, Boo Smith, and Berkshire Power representative Joann McGeoghan. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



JOHN MARTIN (left) holds his plaque for being being the "closest to the pin," while Jr. High Principal Kevin Littlefield won the "closest to the line." Looking on is Berkshire Power employee Joann McGeoghan. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Three Agawam High Cheerleaders Win All Star Medals At Camp

Three talented Agawam High School varsity cheerleaders competed in the All Star Competition at UCA summer camp at Brant Lake, New York and walked away with All Star Medals.

Kadie Barrington, Sheree Cardin, and Team Captain Michelle Kowalewski made their team proud by qualifying in this competition.

The competition involved cheer, dance, and jump skill categories judged by professional UCA counselors. This is one of the few ways to receive individual, national recognition in the cheering community. Kadie, Sheree, and Michelle feel proud of this accomplishment as it shows the result of their hard work and perseverance.

As All Star Gold Medal recipients, Kadie, Sheree, and Michelle have the opportunity to participate as a UCA All Star in The Lord of Westminster's New Year's Day Parade in London, England.

Michelle and Kadie have decided to proceed on to London. They each need to raise $1,900 to cover the cost of the trip; a wonderful opportunity, but a tremendous undertaking for senior year.

They will be out selling candy and hunting for local businesses to help defer the costs of the trip. Fundraising, in addition to school, cheering, college search, volunteer efforts, and other school-based activities leave little free time for the girls.

It is a wonderful chance to have Agawam represented by these fine girls and any contributions would be greatly appreciated. Please send any and all donations to: 1997 AHS Varsity Cheerleaders All Star Fund, c/o BankBoston, Feeding Hills Stop & Shop, 1262 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030.



AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL'S All Stars, from left - Michelle Kowalewski, Kadie Barrington, and Sheree Cardin.

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